

THE LITERARY PANORAMA.

FOR OCTOBER, 1809.

TO THE READERS OF THE LITERARY PANORAMA.

The LITERARY PANORAMA begs leave to commence another volume, by expressing the most grateful acknowledgements to its supporters, for the favour with which they have been pleased to receive its former communications, intended for their information and amusement. Happily, the same kind patronage, that has effectually contributed to the interest of its pages, continues that indulgent partiality, which has been the boast of this work on former occasions: and, the Conductors of it trust, that their humble efforts will meet its continuance.

The Conductors may also say, that, on their part, neither diligence, nor cost, has been spared, to enable them to gratify the expectations of their readers: and they hope it will not be thought impertinent, if they add, that during the late EMBARGO on the Continent, amounting in effect to a CLOSE IMPRISONMENT of knowledge and information, they commissioned by *different ways*, copies of several continental publications at SEVEN TIMES THEIR ORIGINAL PRICE.

It may further be pardonable to hint, that a comparison of several of its competitors with the PANORAMA, will prove, that they have regularly extracted, *without acknowledgement*, articles, which had appeared in this work in the preceding month; and it is a fact, that occasionally, articles from this work have found their way into some of our daily (London) newspapers, as the *very latest intelligence*, TWO MONTHS after the PANORAMA had communicated them to the public.

In entreating the continued patronage of our readers,—their *additional RECOMMENDATIONS*, and *kind INTRODUCTION*, where necessary,—together with the CANDID construction, and acceptance of their endeavours, the Conductors trust that they shall not be thought intrusive; since to that favour and to such exertion, they must solely look for the remuneration of their unusual diligence, and extraordinary expences.

VOL. VII. [Lit. Pan. Oct. 1809.]

NATIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES, PROSPECTIVE and RETROSPECTIVE. No. X.

PENSIONS, SINECURES, REVERSIONS.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO THE THIRD REPORT • FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, &c. OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, PRESENTED TO THE HON. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

[Ordered to be printed, 31st May, 1809.]

A VERY important part of the British Constitution, and, indeed, the glory of it, is that publicity which attends national proceedings. That the people of the British empire are more easily satisfied than the subjects of other governments, may not be true; but, that they feel properly the endeavours made to satisfy them, and accept, with pleasure, those which they regard as ingenuous and sincere, is unquestionable. The interest which every Briton takes in the prosperity of his country induces him to watch, with some jealousy, and more diligence, over the actions of public men; and this vigilance should be, we trust it is, a stimulus to those in office to the honorable and zealous discharge of the duties incumbent on their stations.

Where the mere muck-worm principle of lucre appears to have influenced a party in his avidity after office, or situation, the contempt of the public is sure to embitter his enjoyments. The mere lucre

• The Third Report on the Public Expenditure, with a List of all the Members of Parliament, enjoying Pensions, Sinecures, Reversions, with the amount of their emoluments, &c. &c. will be found in *Panorama*, Vol. IV. p. 1041. *et seq.*

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of gain in a public man makes no friends in Britain. It may procure a few hypocritical conges; but to real respect it is a stranger.

Nevertheless, the generosity of the British nation does not desire that its public servants should go unrewarded. The dignity which it becomes highly exalted characters in the state to maintain, is not to be supported without great expences; and, as on behalf of the community these expences are incurred, it behoves the community that they be not supported by the individual from his private property, but from the general purse.

If "the labourer be worthy of his hire," those in stations of confidence are worthy of liberal consideration: and if labour of the body be entitled to a just compensation, by what shall we recompense labour of the mind? The diligence, the study, the acquisitions necessary to form a man of political business, are extreme;—the exertions, the vigilance, the consideration yet promptitude, the vigour yet caution, the readiness of mind amid exigencies, the calmness amid contradictory information, the penetration and decision requisite in delicate conjunctures, render the station of the statesman no subject of envy. The man, who, from duty to his country, passes anxious days and sleepless nights, revolving in his mind the choice of difficulties, deserves a generous acknowledgement from those whose welfare engrosses his contemplations. To such a character, we say, a generous stipend is due, besides that respect which attaches to his office.

It is also just, that the party whose talents are withdrawn from that profession which had been the means of his eminence, to serve the public, should be indemnified against loss by change of his course of life. If men of talents be desired to occupy posts of state (and posts of state most assuredly demand men of talents) can we blame them if they withhold their services, when the uncertainty of remuneration for the exertion of their talents suggests itself to their minds? Why should they abandon a profitable situation for a situation without profit? Why throw away the opportunity of providing for future life, to serve a country that means to make them no return?—no return adequate to what mere continuance in their present habits would effect?

Add to these remarks, the considera-

tion of the impropriety of permitting men who had occupied high stations, to resume what were their (laudable) occupations before they were selected to such superior appointments. Would any one approve of a return to pleadings at the bar by the man who had been a judge? The authority and influence of the public officer accustomed to decide causes, would certainly occasion, among those engaged as his opponents, jealousies beyond what are current in the profession: to say nothing of the indecorum in such a spectacle; of which every thinking mind needs no conviction by argument. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer were to become a banker, on quitting his office, would not all the world conclude that he turned his knowledge of the proceedings, intentions, and resources of government to good account? Inasmuch, then, as we should derive no gratification from seeing a Lord Chancellor reduced to the character of an attorney, although an attorney may be a very respectable character, and his Lordship might have risen from that to the woolsack;—inasmuch as we should abhor to see a man possessed of the secrets of state in a situation where he must be exposed every hour to temptations to reveal them;—so we must infer, that it is no less wise than just, decorous, and necessary in a state to make provision for those of its officers whom it has called to assist in its service, after the labours in which they have assisted are closed, as to them, respectively.

If this train of reasoning be just, it will follow, as equally just, that the Sovereign should be empowered to assure the individuals whom he calls to his councils, that neither they, nor their families, shall suffer loss or inconvenience by their acceptance of the stations to which his judgement assigns their future labours.

Such a security from the Sovereign is a patent: and this may reasonably benefit a family, to the same extent as that family would have been benefitted had the head of it continued in his original profession.

Extraordinary services to the state should be rewarded, without parsimony, by the state. To slacken the hand of liberality, when such are in question, is akin to the folly of offering a premium to indolence. Who will seize an opportunity, which once lost is lost for ever, when he knows that all the advantage to which it may lead will be lost on the

thankless? that ingratitude and insensibility will be the whole result of his exertions? We must deal with men as men: human nature will not abandon principles implanted in its disposition: whoever desires to enjoy a benefit should hold out inducements—and after acquiring the object, should realize them with honour.

But it may not always be convenient to a state to part with a great sum of money, by way of pecuniary reward: some recourse may, no doubt, be had to honours; and of these a liberal mind will feel the value: but these must be supported with dignity, or they would dishonour the society which confers them, and dignity implies expence, as part of it depends on services not gratuitous. If, therefore, the state desires to pay an annuity rather than a principal sum, it may so happen, considering the frailty of life, that the son, who has done nothing for the state, may enjoy the reward allotted to the father. If the son degrade the memory of his sire, by utter unworthiness of this reward, yet is not the state thereby liberated from the obligation it has incurred. It is the duty of the executive government to fulfil all its contracts. Let the disgrace of not acting worthily, or, even if it be so, of abusing the public punctuality, and acting unworthily, fall where it ought; but let not the state be subjected to the imputation of dishonour, forgetfulness, or ingratitude.

The public at large is not sensible of ALL the services for which it is obliged to individuals. The terrible glory of a victory makes a general impression on a nation: but the silent honour of having preserved the nation in peace is lost on the thoughtless multitude. Yet in the judgement of sound reason, the man who averts the calamities of war from his country, while he maintains her honour unimpeached, deserves a reward of the highest possible class. If it be but a portion of the interest of the many millions such an one has saved to his country—and if the consideration of all the calamities attendant on war be waived—still we insist, that his country cannot too amply reward such a man. But, this exploit scarcely reaches the public ear: the king, by his office, is acquainted with it: half a dozen individuals, who have seats in the cabinet, participate in the knowledge

of it: does it follow that the king is not to reward it because it is private? and because, from the delicacy of the subject, it must continue private, is it therefore to profit the party nothing by whom it has been accomplished? It is enough that the king, as the organ of the constitution, employs his prerogative; the crown may have reasons of which the nation, as a body, has no conceptions.

Sudden services may sometimes lead to sudden honours. It would be weak if not wicked in royalty to refrain from distinguishing by marks of favour, whoever has distinguished himself by averting calamities from the nation, or by ensuring advantages to his king and country, because the mode in which he has accomplished these services is secret. Are the services themselves real, effective, permanent?—this is the question on which depends the propriety of reward.

And if by the mutability of human affairs the successors of a servant of the state distinguished by his eminent qualities and the benefits resulting from his exertions should fall into poverty, what mind capable of feeling the honourable sentiments of humanity, would not sympathize with the unfortunate? Shall we suffer the wives, the daughters, the helpless infants, the rising youth, in whom we may hope with the blood of their fathers flow their honour and their virtue, to languish or to perish before our eyes? Shall we withhold an existence from those to whose ancestors it may be said we are in a measure indebted for our own existence—as a nation—as freemen—or as protestants?

The consequence of these observations is, that rewards may be justly due to various persons with whose services the public is not acquainted:—that, rewards may be justly conferred on some who themselves, personally, have acquired no pretensions to them:—that remunerations of a pecuniary nature may honourably be prolonged after the party who receives them has ceased to discharge those duties for which a pecuniary consideration was due to him.

But propositions the converse of these are no less founded in the strictest integrity than those of which we have been speaking.

When absolute favoritism *ex mero motu* confers out of its own purse an unreason-

able donation on the subject of it,—that may pass for nothing more than folly: but if this unmerited boon be taken from the pocket of another; what was folly before now becomes wickedness. If it be of a nature to descend as a burden to posterity, the wickedness is increased by its perpetuity. If it be originally the reward of vice, or if it were obtained in consequence of vice,—as it was unworthily obtained at first, no after consideration can render it honourable. A pension to a prostitute implies no service to the state: the state is not bound to pay for what it never received. Why burden posterity in remuneration of shameless profligacy, which originally, should have been a subject of remorse, and silence, not of notoriety and boasting?

Rewards should be proportionate to the magnitude of the object attained. A great reward for a small service is preposterous. Yet something is due to rank in life; that may be proper enough for a footman to receive which ought not to be offered to his master. Rewards also may be gradual: and they may be connected with continued services. An office of honour or profit may be conferred as a reward; and this the rather, because it may be expected that he who has merited this situation will continue to merit it, and will discharge a higher office with no less diligence than he has filled an inferior.

But change of times, may in the course of ages, completely alter the nature of that remuneration which justice demands. In the first place, the value of money may so rapidly decrease, that what was ample formerly, may now be despicable. We need no other illustration of this proposition than the situation of many of the clergy; the stipends of their cures when originally fixed in money value, were sufficient:—now they are famine and starvation. The same may be said of sundry offices under the government. In fact, all pensions, allowances, and fixed incomes, partake of this deterioration: and a grant of a thousand pounds per annum in Queen Anne's time, is not equalled in real value by one of two thousand at the present day. In this sense, as considered under the relation of comparative value, the pensions granted by our former monarchs are daily diminishing.

But there are, on the contrary, certain offices where the dues now received, greatly exceed whatever could have been fore-

seen: The encrease of fees, the decrease of other offices of a like nature, public circumstances, or other causes, may have increased what formerly was estimated at hundreds, to thousands of pounds. If the grantor formerly thought a hundred pounds a due reward for services done by the grantee, does equity infer that a thousand is now due to his posterity? If the amount of the *per centage* taken on a smaller sum of money, formerly, was an adequate remuneration for the trouble of an office,—the trouble remaining the same, should the present amount of the *per centage*, suppose ten times as much as heretofore, be allowed to continue the property of the incumbent? If King William designed to bestow on a nobleman two thousand *per annum*, by assigning him an office of that value, of which he was understood to discharge the duties, in person, is it just that the descendant of that nobleman should hold this office now when it produces twenty thousand *per annum*, and he discharges the duties of it by deputy, without once visiting it himself? Did the king intend to bestow twenty thousand *per annum*, on his servant?—Certainly not. What then shall we say to the conduct of individuals who hold several offices of great value, absolutely incompatible with each other?—Either of these *singly*, is sufficient for one person: what says equity to the union of several places in the same man? In vain are all attempts to justify such avidity. The grasping disposition which it manifests, demonstrates that the heart of the incumbent is inaccessible to genuine patriotism. Nothing hardens the heart equally with avarice: but avarice without so much as affecting to return the shadow of a service for what it receives, is at once a vice and a crime that wants a name.

The same inferences may be drawn from the accumulation of sinecure offices of great emolument, by the same family and connections. We adhere to what we have suggested, that statesmen should not be allowed to retire to privation and poverty; and we deem it a conspicuous blemish on the memory of Elizabeth, that she suffered her most able men to die beggars.—Perhaps, we are even now reaping the disadvantage consequent on her parsimony, in that rapacity which disgraces modern times. But there will always be a strong distinction between a sufficient reward for services, and a superabun-

dance : between official duties and absolute sinecure ; between what is conferred as honourable and just, and what is obtained by ceaseless importunity, and solicited, almost *vi et armis*. The public will add to the meed of merit : but, from enjoyments supposed to be attached to the mass of a miser, the public will detract by contempt, if it does not embitter them by opprobrium.

Not to pursue this subject further at present, we shall add a few words, on those distinctions into which the list of emoluments derived from the public purse is divided by the papers of which we are about to annex an abstract.

The first rank on the list, as in the commonwealth, is due to the royal family. A king, as the hereditary representative of his nation, should display in his royal establishments the circumstances of the nation which he represents.—A king of the Hottentots or Caffries, may lawfully wear the finest ivory rings that his country affords ; and seat himself on the most beautiful leopard's skin, that ever hunters brought in from the chase : these are trophies of his own, or of his subjects' valour : of these let him boast. A king of a commercial country may, with the utmost propriety, exhibit articles brought in by commerce : he is not restricted to those produced at home. In shewing foreign valuables, he does but openly manifest the adventurous spirit of his subjects ; and mark the distant territories which acknowledge his influence or authority. A king of a country at once manufacturing and commercial, would degrade his dignity, should his palace be decorated with the clumsiest furniture, and his person with the coarsest apparel. It is true, that the coarsest apparel would keep him warm, as a man ; but, what becomes of his character as representative of the nation, when he appears in a sordid dress ? A king of a civilized, polite, and scientific nation, surrounded by other nations civilized, polite, and scientific, may without censure indulge so much ostentation, as to display productions which those nations esteem and value. In this he does no more than they may do in return ; and intercourse so maintained is honourable to both parties.

What is true of a king, is true in its degree of his family : the children of the king, are the children of the nation :

the elegancies due to the king, are due to the princes and princesses, his descendants. They too are, in a qualified sense, representatives of the nation, and whoever harbours a sentiment derogatory from their fair, and just honours, is not the person with whom we desire acquaintance. But, what are deemed elegancies, whether productions of our own country, or of foreign parts, are not to be obtained without expence ; and it would be treating our princes, as we would not treat a beggar, to say, " obtain what is suitable ; but we withhold the means." Let the nation by its munificence, do itself honour ; and bind its princes to be the first in the land, in whatever is handsome, and exemplary. Let these exalted personages set a laudable example to the youth of every rank,—and it is not in our nation to repine at whatever of state and splendour their allowances enable them to exhibit. The people which may appeal to them as specimens of manly honour and dignity, of female virtue and decorum, will never grudge the cost of that due pomp of station, which in fact reflects honour on themselves.

The peers of the realm are hereditary councillors of the crown ; and usually are representatives of the landed interest. The property of this class being land, should keep pace in value with the exigencies of the times, and place the possessors of it above necessity. It is deeply to be regretted, when the prodigality of a peer has reduced his descendants to penury. It is difficult to find an excuse for such rashness. The Constitution of this kingdom does not allow of depriving an individual of his peerage : but, when impoverished families are extinct, by death, their loss is the less felt by the public. The public, however, feels most sensibly the emoluments accruing to families, which are rich enough in all conscience without them ; and to such instances will always attach a suspicion, that the interest of the nation would be better consulted by the resumption of favours too lavish, or too numerous. Happily for this order, it does not possess the dangerous honour of exemption, from contributing to the public imposts ; or of establishing separate principles of taxation : while this *level lot* continues, individuals may be censured ; but the peerage will be safe.

As to the pensions granted by parlia-

ment, in reward for services, we heartily wish, the occasions of them were multiplied a hundred times. These can never form a dead weight on our Constitution.

The most delicate department of the British government, is that connected with the representation of the people. To say that representatives should be wholly dependant on their constituents, appears, at first sight, to be perfectly correct. But pre-supposing that these senators are selected by their vicinages, for their talents and wisdom,—shall His Majesty be precluded from availing himself of the same talents and wisdom?—They enjoy the confidence of the people which they represent; shall that distinction render them incapable of His Majesty's confidence? If selected by the crown for office, and if they have effected meritorious services to the nation, shall they be obliged to resign their stations, as members of parliament, 'ere they can enjoy the reward due to their merit? These considerations, and others connected with them, will justify a pause in a liberal mind: and this will be confirmed, by the reflection that some of the very persons who have been chosen by the people, and have rendered the most essential benefits to the country, in the service of His Majesty, may have quitted professions in which they were enriching themselves, in order, that they might exert their abilities exclusively in the public service. Shall these, while in the representation, receive no requital, under any form, for having foregone such advantages? Shall they, while in the zenith of their powers and usefulness, be bound to forsake the station in which their constituents have placed them, for the purpose of enjoying an equivalent to what their personal application would have procured them, in their private capacities? At the same time, we confess, that we see without horror, a salutary jealousy, on this subject. It is the extreme on either side, that is dangerous. To admit *too many* placemen and pensioners into the representative branch of the legislature, is suspicious: it is even dangerous. To refuse admission into the Commons House of Parliament to *every* man, who holds an office, is equally dangerous: for it is either expelling men of talents, entirely; or putting them to their choice, of relinquishing one of two things, which neither honour nor conscience declare irreconcilable:—this is absurd.

On this subject, we cannot do justice to our ideas: but shall state in short, that we would have the Parliament, an epitome, or synopsis, of the wisdom and talent of the nation:—of national skill in every department, the church, the law, the army, the navy, trade, &c:—of all the interests (so called for distinction sake),—the agricultural, the pastoral, that of manufactures, the commercial, the scientific, the literary, &c. in short, we would have it a complete PANORAMA BRITANNICA: and when a plan for obtaining this *desideratum* more completely than it exists at present, is promulgated, we shall not be reluctant to give it a candid consideration.

But, if the *proportion* of persons holding offices, or receiving rewards, who also are returned members of the British senate, were under discussion,—what might be the number that a staunch, but ingenuous, friend to his country, would admit?—could *one in ten* be dangerous? We suppose not; unless the other nine were in a state of stupefaction. This, in a representation of 650 members gives 65. The actual number appears from the annexed tables, to be 76: (*one in nine* would give 73)—and to this *wicked* surplusage shall be imputed—what shall not be imputed?—all the evils of Pandora's box; all the misfortunes that ever overwhelmed a devoted empire; or the still more innumerable calamities that haunt the prescient imagination of modern patriotism:

To whom these most adhere,

He rules a moment;—

—Rumour next, and Chance,
And Tumult and Confusion, all embroil'd,
And Discord with a thousand various mouths.

The sinecures in the courts of law, and in other public establishments, are of less importance to the body politic, than what has engaged our attention. These are not beyond remedy; and though in our judgment, every impediment to the strictly *gratis* distribution of justice is an imputation on the moral character of a people, yet on this we shall not enlarge at present. The existence of others—in the colonies, &c. if absolutely useless, ought not to be defended:—but the same measures ought to be taken, for the suppression of these, after the removal, by death, of the present possessors, as have been taken, or are determined on, in a number of instances,

which the reader will find drawn together, and distinguished under a separate head in the subjoined Report. That the operation of this principle may be extended—as the pruning knife is employed, not to destroy the tree, but to increase its fruitfulness—is “a consummation devoutly to be wished,”—and with the confidence inspired by this consideration and the reflections to which it gives occasion and support; as with a hopeful and cheering anticipation of much future good, we conclude our observations; and dismiss the subject for the present.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT, &c.

The Committee having recently received documents, which ought to have made a part of the Appendix to the Third Report of the Committee on Public Expenditure, and being now enabled, in consequence of further examination and inquiry, to correct some inaccuracies in that Appendix, think proper to present this Supplementary Report.

They propose to furnish a detailed and corrected statement of the account, already given, of the gross incomes of sinecure offices, and offices executed by deputy, as well as of offices granted in reversion or for more than one life, and of offices held by members of the House of Commons; and they introduce a column specifying their nett amount, which was not generally stated in the former Appendix. They endeavour to exclude the property tax from the deductions, with which however, in consequence of a prevailing opinion that it ought to be included, it probably continues to be mixed in some statements.

In the former Appendix, several returns were given in a somewhat inconvenient form, which however was the form in which they had been supplied by the public offices, they having been called for from those offices by the Committee, in the terms used in the instruction given to the Committee by the House. In this Appendix the form of some of these official papers is less regarded; and in the case of long and minute details the aggregate only is given, reference being made for particulars to the Appendix of the Third Report. The sum total of each of the several classes of income as well as of all the classes is specified. These consist, *first*, of annuities, pensions, sinecure offices, and offices executed wholly or chiefly by deputy, and of allowances in the nature of superannuations and of compensations for the loss of office, being exclusive of all ordinary allowances to military or naval persons or their relatives, on account of military and naval services: *secondly*, of offices held in reversion and for more than one life: and, *thirdly*, of offices held by members of the House

of Commons: a brief summary of the whole is given.

The Appendix now presented will doubtless be found defective in many respects. The returns from foreign settlements, as the Committee trust, will hereafter be more fully supplied, in obedience to a recent direction to the governors abroad, which they presume to have been given by his Majesty in consequence of an address of the House. The enumeration of sinecure offices, and offices executed by deputy, is probably incomplete, and a more exact investigation into the nature of many of these must obviously be necessary, in the event of the adoption of any general measure for the reform or abolition of offices of this class. The Committee consider themselves as merely supplying that degree of information, which can be afforded, on this extensive subject, without further delay, and without trespassing too much on the time which they may be expected to bestow on other objects.

In every enumeration of pensions, the Committee specify only the gross amount of each; but they introduce at the head of every class of these, a general description of the deductions to which they are respectively subject, and they state the total *nett* amount of the pensions of each class. The deductions consist of exchequer fees, of sixpenny and shilling duties, and of land tax; and amount, in many cases, to near *twenty-five* per cent.

The Committee have taken into their consideration the question of abolishing the sixpenny and shilling duties and the land tax on salaries, pensions and allowances; a measure recommended by the Commissioners appointed to examine into the fees of office, and by the Committee of Finance in 1797, and also by the Auditors of Public Accounts, in a recent report to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, which has been referred to the Committee by the House.

The Committee agree in the expediency of abolishing the duties in question, which, while they augment the revenue on the one hand, must be considered as enlarging on the other in an equal degree the sum necessary to be paid by the public, besides producing some charges of collection, and leading to much trouble and embarrassment. The course proper to be taken is obviously that which the Auditors have recommended, namely, “the simplification of all salaries, pensions, and allowances, upon which the duties are payable, by reducing them to the nett amount which the parties ought to receive.” It is however material to observe, that some difficulty may arise in respect to the abolition of such of these duties as are payable by persons deriving an income from fees, uncertain in their amount, and not thrown into a fee fund, which is employed to spare the funds of the

public; and moreover, that in the case of persons paying these duties upon salaries or pensions receivable out of his Majesty's civil list, the proposed simplification would have the effect of relieving the civil list in particular, to the prejudice of the general revenue of the public. Means however might probably be devised, both of obtaining compensation from the civil list, and of saving the interests of the public, in the case of the individuals who receive fees in virtue of their office.

The repeal of the land tax charged on salaries, pensions and allowances, appears to the Committee to be no longer open to a remark made by the Commissioners and adopted by the Auditors, that the districts which more particularly benefit by the land tax on salaries, pensions and allowances, may, in the event of the repeal, become assessed in too great a proportion, and that some right of appeal from the new pressure ought therefore to be granted to them. If Parliament had repealed the land tax on salaries, pensions and allowances, at the time when the Commissioners made their Report, it possibly might have thought proper not to exempt the districts from the obligation to make up the deficiencies which the repeal would have created. But the act of 38 Geo. III. rendering perpetual the land tax then existing, and authorizing the purchase of it, has passed since the date of the Report of the Commissioners. And your Committee submit, whether, if Parliament should now repeal that part of the land tax which is levied on salaries, pensions and allowances, it will not be consistent with the spirit of that act, to fix the future land tax of the kingdom at the precise amount at which it stood antecedently to the 38th Geo. III., independently of that portion of it which was levied on salaries, pensions, and allowances.

I.—ANNUITIES TO THE ROYAL FAMILY.

[Free from all deductions.]

The Queen, from his Majesty's civil list	£58,000
Prince of Wales, from do, 60,000l.—	
Do. by act of parliament, charged on the consolidated fund, 65,000l.	125,000
Princess Charlotte of Wales, from civil list, 6,000l.—Do. by act of parliament, charged on consolidated fund, 7,000l.	13,000
Duke of York, from civil list, 12,000l.—Do. by act of parliament, from consolidated fund, 14,000l.	26,000
Do. a further annuity of 7,817l. 17s. 4d. Irish pension list.	
Duchess of York, from do.	4,000
Duke of Clarence, from civil list, 2,500l.—Do. by act of parliament, from consolidated fund, 18,000l.	20,500
Dukes of Kent, Cumberland, Sussex, and Cambridge, from do, 18,000l. each.	72,000
Duke of Gloucester, from do.	14,000
Duchess Dowager of Gloucester from do (since dead)	4,000

Princess Sophia, from do.	5,000
2,000l. in addition on decease of Duchess Dowager of Gloucester.	
Duchess Dowager of Cumberland, from do. (since dead)	4,000
Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, from do. (exclusive of 30,000l. from the death of his Majesty) 4,000l. each	20,000
Annuities of 5,000l. in trust for Princess Augusta, and of 1,200l. to the representative of the Duke of Brunswick; Irish pension list.	
Total amount of annuities, granted to the Royal Family (exclusive of 14,000l. 17s. 4d. from Irish pension list)	£365,500

II.—Pensions granted by Act of Parliament, as Compensations, or in Reward for eminent public Services.

[Free from all deductions.]

Sir W. H. Ashurst, since dead, for resignation of his office of judge.	£2,000
Arthur Onslow, Esq. and his son, —speaker in five parliaments	3,000
John Earl of Chatham, and his heirs male,—eminent services	4,000
Francis Augustus Lord Heathfield, and his son, gallant defence of Gibraltar.	1,500
George Lord Rodney, and two next male heirs, signal services in West Indies, 1780	2,000
Lord Eldon, while not Lord Chancellor	4,000
Lady Dorchester, Guy Carleton, and Thomas Carleton, or survivor, eminent services by Sir Guy Carleton, K.B.	1,000
John Penn, Esq. } meritorious services 3,000	
Richard Penn, Esq. } of William Penn, and and their heirs. } the losses of his family in America	1,000
John Earl St. Vincent, and two next male heirs, signal service off Cape St. Vincent, Feb. 1797	2,000
Lord Viscount Duncan, and two next male heirs, signal services against the Dutch fleet, Oct. 1797	2,000
Charles Duke of Richmond, and heirs male of 1st D. of R., compensation for property in a duty of 1s. per chaldron on coals shipped in the River Tyne	12,666
Sir Beaumont Hotham, resignation of offices in Westminster Hall	2,000
Sir W. Sydney Smith, eminent services in Egypt, and defense of Acre	1,000
Baroness Abercromby, and two next male heirs of Sir R. A., signal merits of the late Gen. Sir R. Abercromby, K.B. ...	2,000
John Hely. Hutchinson, and two next male heirs, eminent services in Egypt.	2,000
Sir Jas. Saumarez, Bart. eminent services	1,200
William Duke of Portland, James Earl of Malmesbury, Thomas Lord Pelham and William Lord Auckland, in trust for the House of Orange, in consideration of their situation, and claims on the generosity of this country	16,000
Right Hon. John Lord Boringdon and John Campbell, Esq. in trust for William	

Lord Amherst and the representatives of Jeffery late Lord Amherst, and heirs male, in compensation of land granted for eminent services in America 3,000

John Duke of Athol, and heirs general of 7th Earl of Derby, further compensation for rights and privileges of Lords of Isle of Man 2,531

Lady Viscountess Nelson,—splendid and unparalleled achievements of the late Vice Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, K.B. 2,000

Sir Richard Strachan, Bart. eminent services: capture of a French squadron, Nov. 1805 1,000

Cuthbert Lord Collingwood, and two next male heirs, important service against the combined fleets of France and Spain, off Cape Trafalgar, October 1805 2,000

Sir John Thomas Duckworth, K.B. eminent services, Feb. 1806 1,000

Wm. Earl Nelson, and his heirs male, signal services by the late Vice Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson 5,000

Augustus Henry Duke of Grafton, and heirs male of Hy. D. of G., surrender to the Crown of the duties of prisage and butlerage of wines in England 6,870

George Lord Rodney, eminent services by the late Lord Rodney 923

Marquis of Bute, resigning his situation as one of the late auditors of the impost .. 7,000

Philip Deare, Esq. as late chief clerk in do. office, 300

£93,990

III.—Pensions limited by 22 Geo. III. c. 82. to 95,000*l.* 8th of April, 1808.

[Liable to a deduction of about 25 per cent., exchequer fees, and 1*s.* and 6*d.* duties, and land tax.]

Total amount £81,981 13 4

Total nett, about .. £63,000 — —

Contingent pensions not in course of payment, 7,085*l.*

Total pensions, 99,067*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

IV.—Pensions out of Scotch Civil List.

[Liable to 1*s.* and 6*d.* duties, and land tax.]

Total amount, Jan. 5, 1808 £37,088

Annuity, present keeper of privy seal .. 1,500

38,588

Total nett, about £35,588

Besides contingent pensions, 2,600*l.*

V.—Pensions on the Civil Establishment of Ireland, to March 25, 1809.

[Subject to no deductions.]

Total pension list, Irish curr. £86,719 15 9

The civil list act (33 Geo. III. c. 34.) directs the gradual reduction of this pension list to 80,000*l.*

Pensions of not more than 30*l.* each, termed Concordatum 5,000 — —

Lord Redesdale, late chancellor. 7 4,000 — —

Right Hon. G. Ponsonby 4,000 — —

Contingent pension of 4,000*l.* to

Thos. Lord Manners, now Lord Chancellor of Ireland. 99,719 15 9

English, ... £92,049 — —

Sinecures and Offices, executed wholly or chiefly by Deputy, in England, and the Colonies.

Chancery Gross 20,985 .. Net 16,482

King's Bench 17,679 .. 11,667

Common Pleas 1,787 .. 1,261

Exchequer 9,978 .. 5,470

Prerogative Court, &c. 50,664 .. 24,588

Clerks of assize, &c. 2,994

Total Sinecures and offices executed wholly or chiefly by deputy, in law courts in England, } Net £62,462

Sinecures, &c. not in the Courts of Justice, viz.

Chief justice in Eyre, North of Trent; chief justice in Eyre, South of Trent; auditor of Exchequer; 2 tellers; clerk of the Pells; paymasters general; cartaker to his majesty; clerk of the parliaments; keeper of records in the Exchequer; governor of the Isle of Wight; apothecary general; (*This subject of the resignation of this patent is stated to be under consideration.*) 12,158*l.*—Mint:—Law clerk in Secretary of State's office, home department:—Secretary of State's office, foreign department:—War office:—Privy seal:—4 principal clerks:—Signet office:—4 clerks of the signet:—State paper office:—Excise:—Stamp office:—Receiver of the 1*s.* duty in Scotland:—Post office:—Nett receipt 43,604*l.* Gross receipt 50,978*l.*

Sinecures, &c. in England.

[To be reformed or abolished after the lives of the present possessors.]

Offices to be reformed:—Exchequer:—2 tellers; the emoluments of these two tellerships are to be limited after the lives of the present possessors to 2,700*l.* each. Nett receipts 41,279*l.* Gross receipts 46,567*l.*

Offices to be abolished:—Tally office:—Chamberlains, by patent; auditors of land revenue in England, by patent; ditto for Wales.

Nett receipts 47,713*l.* Gross receipts 54,808*l.*

Customs:—Inspector of prosecutions; register of seizures; register of warrants; inspector of out-ports collectors accounts; collector inwards; collector of petty customs inwards; collector outwards; collector of great customs on wool and leather; comptroller of customs; comptroller inwards and outwards; surveyor inwards and outwards; 3 patent searchers; chief patent searcher; searcher at Gravesend; comptroller, Bristol; patent customer, ditto; patent customer, Cardiff; comptroller of ditto; searcher, Hull; customer inwards, Sunderland; customer outwards ditto; customer outwards, Newcastle; customer inwards, ditto; searcher, ditto; patent customer, Whitehaven; comptroller of stamps; deputy

paymaster at Gibraltar; ditto New Brunswick :—
Total amount of English sinecures and offices
executed by deputy, to be reformed or abolished
after the lives of the present possessors.

Nett receipts 71,985*l.* Gross receipts 82,521*l.*
Deduct from..... *£*71,985
the future salary of tellers 5,400

Remains.. *£*66,585 future saving.

*Sinecures and Offices, executed wholly or
chiefly by Deputy, in the Colonies.*

Jamaica :—Barbadoes :—Leeward Islands :—
Total Sinecures, &c. viz.

In law courts..... *£*62,462

Sinecures, &c. not in the law courts 43,604

Ditto required by law to be reformed
or abolished, after the lives of the present
possessors..... 71,985

Sinecures, &c. in foreign settlements 17,086

Total sinecure offices and offices
executed wholly or chiefly by deputy,
in England and the colonies..... } *£*195,137

Deduct from..... *£*195,137

A future saving, from offices
to be reformed or abolished, of 66,585

Total sinecures, &c. in Eng-
land, exclusive of offices to be
reformed or abolished, and in-
cluding those in the law courts,
amounting to *£*62,462. of
which a part only appears to
be in the gift of the crown.. *£*129,052

Gross to persons instrumental in
suppressing the rebellion in Ireland.... *£* 2,700

Irish..... 29,733

English..... 27,446

Total pensions of the nature of super-
annuation, in England..... 69,825
Ireland..... 27,446

*£*97,271

Reversions and Offices held for more than one Life.

In courts of justice in England..... 40,846

In England, not in courts of justice.. 34,260

In the colonies..... 8,750

Total reversions..... *£*83,856

Scotland..... 5,027

Ireland..... 44,641

*£*133,524

Brief Summary of the preceding Statements.

Summary Statement of the Amount of Annu-
ties, Pensions, Sinecure Offices, Offices executed
wholly or chiefly by Deputy, Allowances granted
in Compensation for loss of Office, and
Allowances in the nature of Superannuation;
being exclusive of all ordinary Allowances,
whether of the nature of Half Pay, or otherwise,
to Military and Naval Persons or their Relatives,
on account of Military and Naval Services.

1. Royal Family—Her Majesty *£*58,000 Net.
H. R. H. the Prince of Wales 125,000 *£*
Princess Charlotte 13,000

Other branches of the Royal
Family 169,500

365,500

2. Pensions granted to sundry persons by
acts of parliament, as compensations,
or for eminent public services..... 93,990

3. Pensions limited by law to 95,000*l.*
Total, (exclusive of contingent pensions
not in course of payment, amounting
to 7,085) 81,981*l.* which being subject
to deductions for shilling and sixpenny
duties, land tax, and exchequer fees,
amounting to about 25 per cent. make
nett about..... 63,000

4. Pensions paid out of the Scotch civil
list, 38,588*l.* making nett about 35,588

5. Pensions, Ireland, amounting in Irish
currency to 91,719*l.* and 8,000*l.* Chan-
cellors 92,049

6. Pensions paid to late foreign ministers,
39,359*l.* making nett about..... 30,000

7. Pensions paid out of $\frac{4}{5}$ per cent. duties.

L. *Nett, L.*
Paid at the exchequer 10,514 7,870

By the husband of the
duties..... 20,949 20,378

28,248

8. Sinecure offices, and offices executed
wholly or chiefly by deputy, in En-
gland and the colonies, viz.

In the English law courts, nett *£*62,462

N. B. These are generally not in the
gift of the Crown.

Sinecures, &c. in England not in law
courts 43,604

Do. do. required by law to be
reformed or abolished after
lives of present possessors.. 71,985

Of which the income will be reduced
to 5,400*l.*

Sinecures, &c. in the colonies.. 17,086

195,137

9. Sinecure offices, and offices executed
wholly or chiefly by deputy, in Scot-
land..... Net 25,523

10. Sinecure offices, and offices executed
wholly or chiefly by deputy in Ireland:

In the law courts *£*33,140

Sinecures, &c. not in law courts 26,933

Do. do. required by law to
be abolished after the lives of
the present possessors 16,362

76,435

11. Pensions, chiefly of the nature of su-
perannuations, in consideration of ser-
vices in public offices, English *£*69,825
Irish 27,446

97,271

12. Pensions of the nature of compensa-
tions :—In England..... 12,020

In Ireland, for the loss of office
on occasion of the Union,
Irish currency *£*93,475

Other compensations,.. 3,207

English

96,682 89,245

101,266

Deduct	
Annuities to the Royal Family..	365,500
Pensions granted by act of parliament as compensations for eminent public services	93,990
Do. to Irish chancellors,	
Irish..	8,000
English..	7,385
Do. to late foreign ministers....	39,000
Sinecure offices, &c. in the courts of law, in England and Ireland, not in gift of the Crown, about	30,000
Offices required by law to be reformed or abolished in England.....	71,985
Deduct future salaries of reformed offices	5,400
	<u>66,585</u>
Offices required by law to be abolished in Ireland..	16,362
	<u>82,947</u>
Pensions chiefly in the nature of superannuation	27,271
Do. ....compensation	101,265
	<u>808,358</u>

Total amount of other pensions and of sinecure offices, and offices executed wholly or chiefly by deputy, in the gift of the crown, viz.		395,060
Pensions: English	63,000	
Scotch..	35,588	
Irish	84,664	
4½ per cent....	28,248	
	<u>211,500</u>	
Sinecure offices and offices executed wholly or chiefly by deputy, in the gift of the Crown ..	183,560	
	<u>395,060</u>	
Total amount of offices granted in reversion, or for more than one life, exclusive of some offices, of the emoluments of which no return has been received. .		133,524
Besides pensions on the Irish pension list, for more than one life, of about.	7,000	
		<u>£140,524</u>

RECAPITULATION RESPECTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS HOLDING PENSIONS OR OFFICES, DURING PLEASURE, OR FOR LIFE, UNDER GRANTS FROM THE CROWN, OR OTHERWISE.

	Net Receipt of Offices held during Pleasure.	Net Receipt of Offices held for Life, from the Crown.	Net Receipt of Offices held for Life under Grants from other Public Offices.	TOTAL Net.
No. 1.				
51 Members holding offices during the pleasure of the Crown, &c.	£94,764	8,882	7,483	110,729
No. 2.				
3 Members holding offices in the appointment and at the pleasure of other public offices.	5,439	—	—	5,439
No. 3.				
22 Members holding offices or pensions for life, producing	—	35,868	4,170	40,038
No. 4.				
76 Members holding offices, producing.....	100,203	44,750	11,653	156,606
No. 5.				
1 Member holding a patent place for 30 years—without salary	No salary	—	—	—
No. 6.				
7 Members holding offices for life, in the appointment of other public office, producing	—	—	7,397	7,397
	<u>100,203</u>	<u>44,750</u>	<u>19,050</u>	<u>164,003</u>

No. 6.

Of the above 76 members, 28 hold pensions or sinecures, or offices chiefly executed by deputy, viz.

4 Members of the House of Commons hold pensions from the Crown, amounting to	3,100
1 Member holds a pension granted by Parliament, amounting to..... (Irish currency)	4,000
23 Members hold pensions or sinecures, or offices executed chiefly by deputy, amounting to	34,911
	<u>Total... £4,1012</u>

Twenty-four Views, taken in St. Helena, the Cape, India, Ceylon, Abyssinia, and Egypt. By Henry Salt. Engraved by Rob. Havell. Whole Sheet Imperial, tinted in Colours. Price £6 guineas. W. Miller, London, 1809.

THE public is obliged to Lord Valentia for descriptions of the places through which he has travelled, but, more to Mr. Salt, who offers for inspection the places themselves, by means of his representations. A considerable proportion of these Plates are views in countries of which we previously, had but little knowledge; and none, we believe, by representation. Such are the views in Ceylon, and, especially, such are those in Abyssinia. We therefore frankly desire the ingenious draughtsman to accept our acknowledgments, for this addition to our information and gratification.

We shall consider these (large) views, in connection with those introduced in the magnificent volumes of Lord Valentia, (which will immediately engage our attention) because they refer to the same countries, are by the same artist, and are the fruits of the same voyage.

The intention of such performances inserted into volumes, or forming companions to volumes, is not to gratify the eye, only, or to satiate curiosity, merely; but to contribute that information to which words are inadequate. Delineations, therefore, should embrace as many incidents as are consistent with fact, and propriety. They may even demand allowances for some liberties, when judiciously taken, and treated in a manner to augment the instruction imparted to one who is contemplating such performances, without any previous acquaintance with their subjects. This we presume Mr. Salt has understood, and has acted on it, as an admitted principle: but, whoever has undertaken to *explain* these drawings, has not entered so fully into many particulars comprized in them, as the unlearned could wish. This is a defect, almost constant among our draughtsmen, to the great disadvantage of their works; and it ought to be remedied; as for the most part, it easily might be, by a few memoranda made at the time when the originals are under inspection. For instance; in Mr.

Salt's print of the "Roode-Sand Pass;" our author informs us, that, "the river is the Kleineberg;"—but we should have been thankful for information, what are the mountains seen in this prospect. In considering the view of Calcutta, a stranger would ask, "what birds are those resting on the tops of the houses?"—nor would a hint at the thatched residences of the native servants, and the description of servants which lodge in them, have been amiss. These are, it is true, circumstances with which, whoever has visited Calcutta is acquainted; but all who inspect these prints have not visited Calcutta. It is evident, that in the garden of "the Mosque at Lucknow," a Mahometan priest is addressing a *lecture* to a youth on his knees; but whether this youth be a penitent, or a learner, the explanation of the subject "sayeth not."

These omissions are felt with greater force in the views where every thing is new to us; as in those derived from Abyssinia. In the first of these, the very interesting and singular view of "Dixan," we suppose, that to the left we see figures walking on the (flat) roof of a house; from an orifice on which roof, guarded by a chimney-pot, the smoke issues. But, as there is no other chimney so guarded, and no other roof so flat, in this delineation, that supposition may be unfounded. A few words from the pen of the draughtsman, would have dissipated our uncertainty. In fact, this ambiguity has struck the designer himself; for he observes on the view of "Asceriah"—that "the smoke arising from the houses, whose flat roofs are hardly distinguishable from the ground at their back, has a singular appearance, and *unless explained, might be taken for subterranean vapours escaping from the earth.*" In the plate of "Muculla"—it might fairly be enquired "who is that person riding on the mule?"—We reply at hap-hazard, "the Bahar Nagash;" but we ought not to be subjected to this hap-hazard.

The whole of the explanation given of the very interesting plate of "Azoro Tishai," is contained in these words (Vol. III. p. 102 of Lord Valentia's travels): "I made a drawing of the Azoro, which I can assure the reader, gives an accurate delineation of the costume of a lady of her rank, although it has no resemblance to the fancy figures given in the last edi-

tion of Bruce, as Abyssinian princesses." The justice of this censure on the Abyssinian princesses of Bruce's editor, and his engravers, we had anticipated. [Compare *Panorama*, Vol: I. p. 1205.] But why must we be put off without explanation of the nature of the apartment—of the light, burning in the apartment, (perfumes, we suppose)—of the attendant females, of which some are completely clothed, in full and flowing drapery, while others are half naked, and might be thought to have only trowsers on.—All have large earrings: one has a string (of pearls?) on her wrist; another has a ring (of gold?) on her ankle:—the manner of forming the hair into a head dress, adopted by these damsels, is not alike: does this distinction indicate any difference of rank?—In short, who, and what, are these attendants on the princess?

No assertion is necessary, to justify these remarks, as solely the offspring of jealousy for the honour of our countrymen, in every department of polite literature: neither is it needful that we should explain the gratification which the *completeness* that would have attended a compliance with the principle on which they are founded, would have afforded us; and others also, not in the habit of *reading* engravings, with which it has been our lot to be familiar. If the prints before us had not been interesting, we should not have deemed them worthy of these animadversions; but, being interesting, why not perfect that interest, by adequate explanation?

Having thus discharged our duty to the Polite Arts, considered as means of instruction, we proceed to describe these (large) drawings, as offering several uncommonly attractive scenes. The discovery of the obelisk at Axum, is among the most honourable that modern adventure can boast; and we are under obligations for the larger view of it; as shewing to greater advantage than the smaller of the same subject, the scenery, and the accompanying antiquities:—antiquities which have been purposely overthrown by a *Christian* Pontiff; whose memory we remit to the execration of all genuine antiquaries, whether in Abyssinia, in Britain, or elsewhere.

The views of the mountains, and valley, of Abyssinia, are highly satisfactory: one of them suggests the idea, that the

clouds are about to form themselves into masses, and to pour down those rains, on which the formation of the torrents depends, and, ultimately, the overflow of the Nile, with the fertilization of Egypt. This subject, in a meteorological point of view, important, deserves further investigation.

Directing our attention now to the embellishments of Lord Valentia's volumes, we observe, that, the first of them contains *seventeen* plates; the second *twenty-five*; and the third *twenty-seven*: so that including the larger views, we have nearly a hundred embellishments, and representations resulting from his Lordship's journey.

The satisfaction we derive from views of places, and portraits of persons, depends on our confidence in the skill and fidelity of the draughtsman: in general, we may safely presume, that the resemblance presented by the plates of that description in these volumes is sufficiently correct. Representations of customs, or incidents, demand a greater scope of thought in the designer, with a judicious *train* of management, by which the course of events may be communicated to the eye of the inspector. Mr. Salt's representation of a *Brinde* feast, (or feast on the raw flesh of an ox) well describes the whole. His portraits of the Ras of Abyssinia; of the Fit Aurari, in combat with a foot soldier; of the Abyssinians in general, and several others, do him great credit. The engravers have acquitted themselves with skill; and spirit: although we think there is in some plates a roughness of landscape, and even of the sky, which renders the bleak mountains they represent still bleaker.

A chart of the Red Sea, on a large scale, is a very valuable appendage; and considering the importance into which this sea is likely to rise, the events that have taken place on its banks, and those which it is probable they may hereafter witness, we consider this map, as a material accession to our geography; and equally important for the purposes of history and commerce. We participate in the mortification felt by his lordship, when prevented from completing his survey of the western coast of the Red Sea; to which we devoutly wish he had added that of the Gulf of Accaba, that we might no longer lie under the uncertainty of the extent and form of that Gulf; or of the distance from thence

to Mount Sinai, which, in the map on our table, is marked as less than in any other that we remember to have inspected. It cannot but be thought singular, that the ports whence issued in the days of Solomon the vessels that traded to the Indus, should now be unknown, to the most adventurous of navigators, whose vessels appear in those seas; as well as to their neighbours, who affect to assert their dominion over them, and the countries around them.

. Mr. Salt speaks very favourably of the Natural-History plates of Bruce; although in those parts of Bruce's narrative that concern himself, both Mr. Salt and Lord Valentia formally contradict him. His lordship also shews, by an outline on his map, the errors of Bruce in laying down the coast of the Red Sea: errors which he copied, and which on his authority were likely to be perpetuated, unless corrected by some such expedition as the present.

Voyages and Travels to India, Ceylon, The Red Sea, Abyssinia and Egypt, in the years 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805 and 1806. By George Viscount Valentia. In 3 volumes. Price £9. 9s. Miller, London, 1809.

WHAT astonishing differences mark the manners of man, distinguished by the prevalence of civilization, from those of the same species who are devoid of that stimulus to exertion! Who could suppose that the incurious and almost stupid being which inhabits a dreary wild, and differs little from other natives of the forest, should, under more favourable circumstances, be capable of pursuing the acquisition of knowledge with an ardour that defies fatigue, and despises the privations, hazards, and imminent dangers to which all travellers are exposed? When our super-cargoes visit remote regions in search of commerce, the consideration of the profit which glitters before their eyes, inclines the mind to overlook the risks they run, provided the parties themselves be willing. But when a love for science, a thirst for the increase of knowledge is the inciting power, what an effect, arising wholly from principles of mental energy, does it display! Britain

has seen her vessels fitted out by the state to examine shores at the very utmost distance on the face of the globe; and this, to subserve the purposes of science. She has seen her sons of elevated rank abandon the enjoyments of home, with all the temptations of ambition, and spend the prime of their days in circumnavigating the globe; seeking for discoveries in the productions of nature, animal, vegetable, and mineral. The "Nation of Shopkeepers," has dignified itself by the adventurous intrepidity of a Cooke, and the inquisitive researches of a Bankes; not to mention a thousand truly illustrious names in the higher classes of British literati, who have promoted the interests of knowledge by personal diligence, as well as by munificent patronage.

Wherever the British power extends, and especially wherever it prevails, thither will the eye of curiosity be directed, and the ingenuous of our nation will be desirous of acquaintance with the people, and the countries which yield obedience to our government. Other reasons also contribute to render every enjoyment of our eastern empire an object of curiosity. India is a beautiful and fertile country, abounding with life; a country, the seat of civilization and science in the earliest ages; with which an intercourse was deemed desirable, by the most learned and polite nations of antiquity; nations which we distinguish as classical, yet they did not consider themselves as debased, when they directed their footsteps thither as to the source of information, religious and philosophical. In modern times India is resorted to; but India does not resort to others: India supplies their desires; but extends not her desires to what they produce: her happy climate yields sundry superfluities which they may fetch; but for which they must enrich her industry by exchange of the precious metals.

India also furnishes the singular spectacle of a country subdued, at distant periods, and by different powers, yet preserving its original principles and persuasions, in spite of the conquerors before whom it has bowed. Its inhabitants have been oppressed, persecuted, exiled, slain, —yet they have braved their sufferings, and have triumphed over their tyrants: they have been flattered, cajoled, caressed, yet have remained inflexibly the same in

spite of blandishment and solicitation; equally proof against the beating tempest of war, and the relaxing sunshine of peace. They have lately seen a new race of distant strangers rapidly acquire the sovereignty of extensive territories, and assume the dominion over millions of subjects. Hitherto, they have seen a system pursued, that has given to the countries originally occupied by this irresistible victor, a period of peace, which already has exceeded the reports of tradition. Never had Bengal, in the hands of its former masters, so long an interval of undisturbed tranquillity, as it has had since the British have been the ruling power of that country; and should our newly acquired provinces experience the same good fortune, this effect will be grateful to humanity, as it will be invaluable to the natives of India, from whatever cause it may arise.

The principles that could defy Mahometan rapacity, and resist the sanguinary edicts issued for the compulsive conversion of those whom it detested as idolaters,—the constancy of those who could defy the Mahometan sword, and maintain the customs of their forefathers, when the only election offered them was Islamism or death;—the institutions that still reared their heads, though trampled on by that new superstition, which had elsewhere abrogated whatever of venerable opposed its progress, justly become objects of curiosity, and command the attention of those who are desirous of acquaintance with the human mind. Neither are the manners and principles of these Mahometans, themselves, unworthy of contemplation. They descend from tribes formerly almost unknown to history; and little likely to be the future conquerors of immense regions. They had to establish themselves against whatever of art and cunning, of duplicity and deceit, their unwilling subjects could employ; and to govern by the sceptre of power in the hands of the few, while the hands of the many were ready to snatch it away, and their eyes were watching for opportunities favourable to their hopes of breaking it. The present period, too, adds to the interest with which we may contemplate the Mahometan dynasties. Already deep in the very vitals of Mahometism that persuasion prevails, which to judge from appearances, is destined at no very

distant time to annihilate the religion of the false prophet, and to reduce the institutions of Mahomet, (no ordinary man, nor an every day genius), to the shadow of a shade. Ere long it may be necessary to remind the world what Moosulmauns were; and to appeal to the ruins of structures which once they deemed sacred, in proof that such a power had held despotic sway for ages over the fairest portions of the globe. If to this we might add, that the traveller whose labours we are about to consider, performed his journey on the eve of the general introduction, establishment, and spread of Christianity, throughout this vast peninsula, what accession can be made to the interest of a period so remarkable. Yet to Britons there is still this zest in reserve, that it is British power we are called on to contemplate, and British benevolence, we hope and trust, the results of which we are induced to anticipate.

That a British nobleman should indulge his curiosity by visiting a country so interesting, from these, and other causes, appears to us extremely laudable, we had almost said natural. Favoured by his countrymen high in office, and treated with the respect due to his rank, those difficulties that would have withstood the progress of travellers in a humbler sphere of life, disappeared before him. The dignitary who journeyed under the protection of the governor general, and who visited the courts of the sovereigns, by whom he was visited in return, had nothing to dread from the interested opposition of underlings in office, or the wilful misconstruction of his intentions and requests, by attendants, and servants. The private individual may see more of mankind, considered as a mass of population, but the ceremonies of reception, presentation, and courtly manners as established in Asia, will not speedily be better narrated than in the travels before us. We could, indeed, have congratulated the world on the introduction of greater diversity of matter; and a few adventures, might have gratified the reader, since such is the fashion. We are, to be sure, introduced to a tiger fight against elephants, but the result is not brilliant: a bold tiger hunt would have been greatly preferable; and the dexterity of a nabob in overcoming so formidable a foe, well-described, might have interested us, almost

as much as if we had witnessed his prowess. In Ceylon, too, the sport of entrapping half a dozen elephants of most monstrous size, would have furnished matter for speculation, much superior to that of repeated applications for dawks—tappals—dandys—hircarrahs, and palanquin boys;—or chuddars—soontabundars, and the rest of the swarry. What a compendium of marvels would some authors have made out of such an extensive excursion!

Lord Valentia dedicates his work to Marquis Wellesley, "by whose great political talents, promptitude, and decision, the extensive and important empire of India has been preserved from the secret machinations of traitors, combined with the open hostility of an implacable enemy."

The first volume informs us that his lordship quitted England in June 1802; arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, Oct. 20; at Calcutta, Jan. 25, 1803. From this metropolis he travelled up the Ganges to Lucknow, and Benares: he returned to Calcutta Oct. 7, of the same year. In December his lordship sailed for the British possessions in Ceylon: he returned up the Coromandel Coast to Tanjore, to Pondicherry, and Madras; thence to Bangalore and Seringapatam; he visited the Western coast of the Peninsula. At Mangalore, his lordship commenced his first voyage to the Red Sea, the history of which forms the subject of the second volume; which we shall hereafter report. In the present article we shall only attend his lordship on the voyage and excursions we have mentioned.

The habits of a British nobleman lead him almost inevitably to a consideration of the welfare of the body politic; and from the familiarity of his ideas with proposals for public advantage, he conceives and communicates advice, intended for the improvement of the countries in which he travels. Politics do not form a very prominent feature in these volumes; yet there are many political observations, which appear to be founded on a just sense of existing circumstances, as well as of permanent principles. Natural history also formed a leading object of our noble traveller's attention; and on more than one occasion we are almost tempted to inquire, what the incurious natives of the barren coasts which he visited, could think of his anxiety to obtain and preserve

those shells and other exuviz, which they daily trod under foot without reflection. That the science of geography has also derived an accession from his lordship's labours, we have already remarked. On each of these subjects we meet with important or ingenious observations.

We regret, indeed, that personal accommodation induced the noble lord to travel very much by night: he also proceeded from city to city with that post-haste rapidity which allowed no leisure for acquiring much information, by personal inspection, beyond what was too obvious to be overlooked: to this we may add, that his want of acquaintance with the languages of the countries through which he passed, necessarily confined him to partial and imperfect accounts, received by the medium of interpreters.—On the other hand, the superior officers of the British government, would more freely communicate confidential information to Lord Valentia, than to a private gentleman, or to travellers in general: he would be better informed of their proceedings and wishes, than others who had no pretensions to associate with the higher powers of the state; while his visits to the present or former sovereigns of these provinces, enabled him to judge of their feelings, their hopes, and their fears, so far as they were uncontrouled by those arts and disguises which, if not inherent by nature, are incorporated by habit in Asiatics.

After these introductory remarks, we proceed to select such passages from this magnificent publication, as may justify the representation we have given of it.—Of these in their order:

We confess, that our judgment has differed from that of the East-India Company, on the subject of the importance fairly to be attached to the Cape of Good Hope: and we see with pleasure, that by judicious management the expences of that colony, which were considered as the chief obstacle to our retaining it, are not of necessity insuperable. Change of masters, and the increase of accommodations usually demanded by new-comers, would naturally increase the first settlement of the British at the Cape, beyond a fair average of continued expence. His lordship observes, that

A garrison of nearly 6000 men kept up during war, in peace might be greatly

diminished. Another very material alteration might take place in the expenditure at the Cape by an increase of the Hottentot corps, which at present consists of only five hundred men. Experience has now so fully shown their capability of becoming good soldiers that a diminution might take place in European troops nearly in proportion to their increase. Their fidelity to the British they have proved by fighting even against their own countrymen; and their antipathy to the Boors is naturally such as to render any union between them contrary to the British interest impracticable. It is also fair to suppose that the revenue which under the Dutch was only about £25,000 a year, but which rose gradually under the British to upwards of £100,000 a year, would continue to increase. But even were the expense to continue to exceed the revenue to the amount of £200,000, I should consider it as well bestowed in preserving a colony which might be so beneficial in the hands of the British, and would become so injurious to her trade in the hands of an enemy.

This increase of revenue gives us pleasure. This colony could supply wine in abundance; and equal in quality to whatever has been imported from France.

The visits of Lord Valentia to the princes of India present many points for reflection. That the descendants of those who formerly swayed the sceptre of the Indian empire should now be reduced to live on an allowance, is a consideration that may well induce serious ideas—But when we have recollected that these Mahometans were by nation strangers to India, and by religion fanatics and intolerant, we can hardly refrain from estimating these declensions of families formerly great, as a part of that general depression which the Mahometan religion appears to experience in the present day. In support of this remark, we extract Lord Valentia's account of his visit to the family of the late Mogul, Shah Allum: the Begum is of the royal house of Timour.

The allowances paid to the royal family are amply sufficient, says his Lordship, not only for comfort but for splendour, yet they are always distressed; because,

There is an improvidence in the Mahometan character, which prevents their keeping within due bounds. A predestinarian thinks little of the morrow, and hopes of future prosperity shut their eyes to the inevitable ruin that awaits them. *Many of the first Mussulmaun*

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families have already disappeared: they become soldiers of fortune in the armies of the native princes. Our service they dislike, as they cannot rise high in it; and trade is chiefly in the hands of the Hindoos; as is the collection of the revenue, and ever has been; for even on the conquest of Hindostan by Timour, he found the system of finance so complete, that he was necessitated to leave it *in statu quo*.

But to return to the princes.—On paying a visit to any Asiatic prince, an inferior receives from him a complete dress of honour, consisting of a khelaut, a robe, a turban, a shield, and sword, with a string of jewels to go round the neck. This ceremony was submitted to by Lord Cornwallis when at Benares. When Lord Wellesley visited the upper provinces, he objected to the ceremony as too degrading, and determined to appear in the presence of the royal family in his uniform, receiving the dresses in trays as a present made to him. He had directed Mr. Neave to notify to the princes, that my rank, as a British nobleman, was such as to require the same etiquette in receiving me. Of course, his will and pleasure is a law: and it was arranged accordingly.

About nine of clock Mr. Neave and I set off for Shewalli, the old palace of Cheyt-Sing, at present occupied by the Begum and her son, Mirza Korum. It is situated in the middle of the town, on the banks of the Ganges, and is the place whence that Zemindar escaped, when put under an arrest by Mr. Hastings. The two suwarrys [trains of followers] united made a very handsome shew. As I approached the palace, I found the guard drawn out to receive me, compared to whom Falstaff's recruits were gentlemen. It was intended to do me honour, and I felt the compliment. On entering the gate a salute was fired. We here quitted our palanquins, and perceived the prince in the Devan Kanah, waiting our approach. It is a small room, elevated a few feet from the ground, open on three sides, and supported by pillars; on the fourth a purdah [curtain], was stretched across, behind which was seated his mother. He advanced to the head of the steps, followed by his three sons. He there embraced me three times, and taking hold of my left hand, led me to a small couch close to the purdah, and seated me on his right hand, in fact, between his mother and himself, though she was invisible. I instantly presented to her a nazar of nineteen gold mohurs, in a white handkerchief. I handed them through a hole in the purdah, which being tolerably large, I contrived to get a peep at the old lady, who was little, and rather fair: her hands were very delicate. I should have preferred the

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view of some of the owners of fine black eyes, that I saw playing at hide and seek through the different holes; but it was impossible. I then delivered to him a nazur of nine gold mohurs, in a similar manner. Mr. Neave made his nazurs of five mohurs to the Begum, and three to her son.

This important part of the ceremony being over, and Mr. Neave being seated on a chair opposite, a conversation began through the medium of his interpretation. The mother enquired after my health, and that of Lord Wellesley. My motives for visiting India were next inquired into: I replied, that the wish to see so fine a country and to pay my respects to his family; who were all highly respected by the British nobility, were my chief motives. Did I mean to visit the royal presence? I replied, most certainly. They then launched forth in praise of Agra and Delhi, and the magnificence of the buildings. The idea of what passed in their minds at that moment, most painfully struck me. Could they do otherwise than recollect that those palaces were once theirs, and that they there reigned in the plenitude of Eastern power: that now, alas! how great the contrast! The head of the family blinded in his old age by the villainy of a subject, was with difficulty able to procure a moderate subsistence; while they themselves were thankful for the use of the palace of a Zemindar, and owed their bread to the benevolence of a nation on which they had no claim. Nothing but the hope of future prospects could brighten such a scene, and they seemed to entertain it. The Begum earnestly addressed me, begging that, whether in Europe or in India, I would remember with kindness her son, who was placed beside me. She had made the same request to Lord Wellesley, in a more solemn manner; she put her hand through the purdah, and taking his, placed it on her son's head imploring his protection.

I now gave a hint that I wished to retire, and the dresses, &c. were produced in trays, and laid at my feet. They could not be refused, and consequently I accepted them by raising my hand to my head, and inclining my body. Mr. Neave had some shawls thrown over his shoulders. On our departure paun, [the areca nut with lime, which is chewed by the natives, and invariably presented to all visitors] and roses were presented; but we were spared the attar, which is every way detestable. The prince conducted me to the bottom of the steps, and took his leave in terms nearly similar to his mother's request. I had delivered an additional nazur of two mohurs to each. Mr. Neave had done the same. I omitted to mention one circumstance of Oriental etiquette: on paying my respects my titles

were not announced by a servant; from an Asiatic courtesy which supposed me of so high a rank, that I must be known to the princes. In all other cases this is done: it was so to Mr. Neave.

The manners of the Asiatic princes are *anglicized* to so great a degree, that Lord V. on several occasions "could hardly persuade himself, that the whole was not a masquerade." The music played English tunes: the nautch girls sung airs familiar to the English ear; "I care for nobody, no not I"—"Marlbrouck"—"God save the King," &c. This is not wonderful; but the effect it is calculated to produce on the mind of a British traveller, may more easily be conceived than described.

We hope that the prevalence of our manners, may honourably be ascribed to our conduct as sovereigns. Power may do much; but other inducements are more prevalent over the minds of subjects, than power. Speaking of Oude his lordship says, that by arrangements made with the Nabaub, his highness is really richer than before. "The British have obtained an additional revenue, and secure payment: the Ryots have obtained security from the oppressive plunderings of the Aumils, and the protection of the British laws, instead of being at the mercy of every robber. *So conscious are they of these advantages, that the land which was rated to the Nabaub at a crore and thirty-five lacs, has been let at a crore and eighty lacs.*"

At Bangernow—"Numbers quitted these provinces to become cultivators in ours, encouraged by the protection which they were sure to receive, and many others have constantly entered our armies."

At Fattyghur—"The idea of security, under our government, operated in raising the value of lands, so that on letting them for three years we have a profit of nearly three lacs, instead of a loss of one lac, which the first proposal to the Nabaub proves we really expected would be the case." These are truly honourable testimonies.

But, while the natives are thus expressing their conviction of the blessings attached to the British government, there is a *caste* rising, to which Lord Valentia, not without great reason, looks with much anxiety: we mean, that which consists of the mingled issue of British

fathers and native mothers. This link will one day form, if rightly managed, a strong bond of security to the general sovereignty; but if improvidently treated it will form a society within itself, the consequences of which may be serious. These demi-Europeans act as clerks in mercantile houses; but are excluded from offices under the Company.—What is their education?

We cannot follow Lord V. in his sentiments on the state of religion (Christianity) in India, or in Ceylon; or in his curious history of the living Deity, who did not scruple to avail himself of the skill of a European surgeon. But, having on all occasions, protested against the exertion of any thing like force, in converting Hindostan, we agree with many of his lordship's remarks on that subject. In short, the depopulation produced by the religious tyranny of Tippoo, may well be taken as a salutary caution on this article.—His father Hyder doubled the number of his people, by a more judicious and benign conduct.

“Hyder (says lord V.) was indeed a different character: he might be an usurper, he certainly governed the provinces he had seized from his sovereign, or conquered from the neighbouring princes, to the benefit of the inhabitants, without permitting his prejudices as a Mussulman to influence his conduct to the detriment of the Hindoos; as the following anecdote will very remarkably show. A celebrated Mussulman saint, called Peer Zaddah, resided at Seringapatam, and was greatly revered. On the festival of Shiri Runga, the Goddess of Abundance, when her statue was as usual carried in procession from the temple through the streets, it unfortunately passed the door of the Peer, whose pupils being irritated at the idolatry, sallied forth, beat the people, and drove them and the goddess back to her sanctuary. The Brahmins complained to Hyder, who told them that they ought to defend themselves when attacked. The next day the procession again went forth and was again attacked by the pupils of Peer Zaddah. The event was however very different; for the Hindoos being by far the most numerous, beat their assailants, and continued their procession in triumph. The next day the Peer presented himself with all his pupils at the durbar of Hyder, and complained of the injuries he had received; Hyder heard them patiently, and then asked them what they wanted of him: they had attacked the party and had been deservedly beaten, what else could they expect; and what had induced them to act so? The Peer replied, “that the

“procession was an insult to the Mussulmaun religion, and ought not be suffered under a Mussulmaun government, whilst he a Mussulmaun prince was at the head of it.”—Hyder instantly interrupted him, by asking, “Who told you that this was a Mussulmaun government, or that I was at the head of it? I am sure I never did.” On this the Peer desired a private audience, which was granted; when finding he could not change Hyder's determination, he declared his intention of quitting the place. Hyder told him he might go wherever he pleased. Extremely indignant, he retired to Arcot, where many faquirs at that time resided; but not finding his new residence so pleasant as his old one, he shortly returned to Seringapatam, and wished to live again within the fort. Hyder however positively refused his permission, telling him, “that he had proved himself unworthy of doing so: but he would give him a house any where else.” The Peer retired in wrath to the Black Town, where he died, and was buried at Chinapatam.

His lordship thinks, that beside the pretence of religion (unwisely disturbed) at Vellore, the political interference of Tippoo's sons, had a great share in that unhappy and dangerous insurrection.

We must, however, do his lordship the justice to say, that he strongly recommends translations of the Scriptures, as the proper mean of enlightening the natives; in which, we believe, he has the sanction of the wise and good. He also states some circumstances which render Ceylon a more hopeful scene for the extension of Christianity than he conceives India to be.

The principal cities of India swarm with inhabitants. The Strand in London exhibits nothing equal to the crowds in Calcutta. That city is now scarcely bounded by the Mahratta ditch, which in 1742 was intended to surround the whole of the territories we then occupied! But, we prefer as a description of one of these Asiatic hives, his lordship's account of Benares; a city not so frequently visited by Europeans as Calcutta, the metropolis of our Asiatic empire.

The approach to the Minars is through the most frequented and populous part of the town, and a more extraordinary one I never beheld. The streets are so extremely narrow that it was with difficulty I prevented my horse from touching the side. The houses are built of stone some six stories high close to each other with terraces on the summit. They are whimsically painted, and the archi-

ecture is as extraordinary. Bands of carved work run in general round each story, by no means despicably executed; and the large masses of stone used in the walls, together with the neat manner in which they are joined, show that the masons are very tolerable workmen. The windows are extremely small, and probably they are formed in this manner to answer two purposes, first, to prevent the opposite neighbours from overlooking the apartments, and secondly, to keep the houses more cool during the hot winds. Our style of architecture is by no means adapted to the climate, and the large windows would be insufferable were it not for the tattys,* which are easily applied to a house one story high, but would be impracticable in a house of six stories, and situated in a town. It is seldom that the universal custom of a country is not founded on reason, though therefore, they have larger windows in their country houses which can be cooled by artificial means, yet up stairs where that cannot be done, they reduce the apertures as much as possible. The opposite sides of the street in some places approach so near to each other, that they are united by galleries. Several new houses were building on a very handsome scale, and the town in general had an appearance of prosperity which is by no means deceitful. The city of Benares is so holy, that several Hindoo Rajahs have habitations there; in which their wakeelst reside, and perform for them the requisite sacrifices and ablutions. The land is extremely valuable, and law suits respecting it most frequent. The number of stone and brick houses from one to six stories high is upwards of 12,000. The mud houses upwards of 16,000. The permanent inhabitants are upwards of 58,000, besides the attendants of the three princes and several other foreigners who may amount to near 3000; but the concourse during some of the festivals is beyond all calculation. The Mahometans are not one in ten.

The mosque with its minars was built by Aurungzebe to mortify the Hindoos. Not only is it placed on the highest point of land, and most conspicuous from being close to a river, but the foundations are laid on a sacred spot, where a temple before stood, which was destroyed to make room for it. This edifice violated the holy city, and proudly overlooked all the temples! and what was perhaps more galling, all the terraces of the houses, where the females were accustomed to enjoy the cool of the morning and even-

ing. The mosque itself has nothing interesting. The minars are light and elegant, so light is one of them that it is not safe to ascend it, and probably in a very short space it will be as low as the house of Timour. From the top of the other, is a very extensive view of the town and adjacent country, but my head is not sufficiently steady to mount such a height. I therefore satisfied myself with ascending to the roof of the mosque, whence I overlooked the whole of the town and the river, with the thousands of inhabitants bathing on its banks. A little stone temple dedicated to Maha-deva displays its trident at an humble height, close to the side of the crescent, at the summit of the minars, no unfit emblem of the state of the two religions previously to the establishment of British power. Tyranny and oppression seem to be necessary concomitants of the Mussulman religion, whose first principle is intolerance.

The deference with which the English treat all the prejudices of the Hindoos is rapidly reconciling their minds to the Christian government. Not only are they protected in all their ceremonies, but even the duties which were levied on all who made a pilgrimage to Benares, were taken off by Mr. Hastings on his visit to that place. The merchants also begin to be sensible of the perfect security which they enjoy under our government. Confidence once established, most rapidly diffuses itself; and I have been informed from authority which I consider as very good, that many Hindoo countries now under the controul of the Mahrattas, though a nation professing their own religion, would be rejoiced to place themselves under our dominion. The Mahomedans of course detest us: we have deprived them of a mighty empire; and they feel that they hold the little remnants only by our permission. No wonder then, that the late Nawab of the Carnatic, considered Tippoo as the great safeguard of his religion, and as such looked up to him. He was correct in his ideas, and I cannot conceive how our government could even expect him to think otherwise. The Hindoo can have no feelings of this sort: he has only changed his masters, and although we do not so much unite with him as his former master did, yet on experience he prefers the one who gives him the firmest protection from insult and oppression.

A singular instance of their appeals to the English, occurred in the person of the sister of the Nainpou Rajah, who lately arrived at Benares to perform her ablutions. Mr. Neave caused her to be received with every respect due to her rank. On such an occasion it is customary to give alms to the different Brahmins, who amount to about seven thousand; and as the ceremonies cannot be

* Screens on the outside of a window composed of the roots of sweet scented grass, on which water is thrown by the servants, which perfectly cools the air.

† Envoy or ambassador.

performed without their assistance ; they are very often unreasonable in their demands, as they were to this good lady. Eight days after her arrival she sent to Mr. Neave, to complain that they required a sum she could by no means pay, and that she had not been able to begin her devotions. Mr. Neave assured her that the English did not receive a rupee, so that he could do nothing except by mediation with the Brahmins, which he would attempt : he accordingly remonstrated with them ; and the lady was permitted to fulfil all her duties at a reasonable rate.

The sea makes considerable inroads on various coasts of India : it rapidly gains ground on the eastern shore, and loses on the western : yet Lord V. conceives that the eastern coast is now, for the most part, well defended by rocks ; the approaches to which have been already overwhelmed.

The phenomenon at Lucknow, of which the following is a description, must have been truly awful.

The thunder was not loud and the air was perfectly still. The birds were flying very high and making a terrible screaming. At length a dark brown cloud appeared on the western horizon, and came on with considerable rapidity. The whole town of Lucknow, with its numerous inhabitants was between me and the cloud. And the elevation of my terrace gave me an excellent opportunity of observing it. When at about the distance of a mile it had all the appearance of a smoke from a vast fire ; volume rolling over volume in wild confusion ; at the same time raising itself high in the air. As it approached, it had a dingy red appearance ; and by concealing the most distant minars from my view, convinced me it was sand, borne along by a whirlwind. The air with us continued perfectly still ; the clouds of sand, had a defined exterior ; nor did the wind a moment precede it. It came on with a rushing sound ; and at length reached us with such violence, as to oblige me to take shelter in my eastern verandah. Even there the dust was driven with a force that prevented me from keeping my eyes open. The darkness became every moment greater ; and at length it was black as night. It might be called palpable darkness ; for the wind now changing a little to the southward, brought on the storm with tenfold violence ; and nearly smothered us with dust. It blew so violently, that the noise of the thunder was frequently drowned by the whistling of the wind in the trees and buildings. The total darkness lasted about ten minutes ; when at length it gradually gave way to a terrifically red but dingy light, which I at first attributed to a fire in the town. The

rain now poured down in torrents ; and the wind changed to due south. In about an hour from its commencement, the sky began to clear ; the tufaun went off to the eastward, and the wind immediately returned to that quarter. The air was perfectly clear and free from dust.

Such phenomena are not uncommon : but the extreme dryness which preceded this, had reduced almost every thing susceptible of such reduction to powder ; and this powder greatly augmented the terrific appearance.

As a contrast to such devastation, we shall introduce his lordship's account of the botanic garden at Calcutta ; in which the principle of improvement counteracts that of desolation. And we prefer this instance, because it is honourable to the science of Europe and of our countrymen ; to the Company under whose patronage it is established ; and to the learned and intelligent individuals immediately employed in it.

Amongst other morning excursions, Mr. Graham and I visited the Botanic Garden which is under the care of Dr. Roxburgh. It affords a wonderful display of the vegetable world ; infinitely surpassing any thing I have ever before beheld. It is laid out in a very good style and its vast extent renders the confinement of beds totally unnecessary, yet I think it is a pity that a small compartment is not allotted to a scientific arrangement. The finest object in the garden is a noble specimen of the *Ficus Bengalensis*, on whose branches are nourished a variety of specimens of the parasitical plants ; *Epidendrons*, *Linodorums*, and *Filices*. The water also is beautiful as being covered with red, blue, and white *Nymphææ*. Utility seems to have been more attended to than science. Thousands of plants of the Teak tree, the Loquat, the grafted Mango, and other valuable fruit and timber trees have from this place been disseminated over our Oriental territories ; and at present it is a complete centre, where the productions of every clime are assembled to be distributed to every spot where they have any chance of being beneficial. The nutmeg was in considerable perfection, but the Mangusteen though often brought has never survived its transplantation one year. The chief novelties are from Napaul and Chittagong. Most of the West Indian plants are making their way here and will probably thrive well. It is by far too hot for European vegetables ; and of course many even of our pot herbs are in the list of their desiderata.

We shall resume the consideration of these volumes in our succeeding numbers.

The Mythology and Rites of the British Druids, ascertained by National Documents, and compared with the general Traditions and Customs of Heathenism, as illustrated by the most eminent Antiquaries of our Age. With an Appendix, containing Ancient Poems and Extracts, with some Remarks on Ancient British Coins. By Rev. Edward Davies, 8vo. pp. 624. Price 18s. Booth, London: 1809.

WHY should a writer on the customs of our island, in early ages, suppose that his subject stands in need of an apology? Do we not study, with diligence, the arts, the manners, and the historical events of Greece and Rome, in ages beyond the reach of record? Yet the opinions of Greece never could affect us by tradition; and whatever were the sentiments which the Romans disseminated here, they have long since lost their influence, and been buried in oblivion. Not equally indifferent are the ancient manners of the early inhabitants of Britain: even where conquered by the Saxons, they were not extirpated; and a nation still remains of those who maintained their freedom. Is it not then a fair presumption, that in some degree our present national manners may be influenced by this original source, though afterwards blended with others?—that some of the ancient British blood enlivens the hearts of the present generation, and some of the opinions current among the *Cymry*, still circulate, though undistinguished among our population. Whence then the necessity for an apology?—For our parts, we shall make none; but shall suppose that our readers, like ourselves, will receive information respecting this race of men, with at least as much interest as if it described other races of men; and with more, in fact, because whatever concerns our countrymen, concerns in some degree ourselves.

We have ventured, on several prior occasions, to introduce what we deemed authentic memorials of the ancient Britons;* and therefore, our readers are prepared to consider them as far removed from the savage state, though yet rustics,

* Vide the *Collectanea of British Antiquities*, *Panorama*, Vol. I. p. 1290. Vol. II. pp. 382, 580, 837, *et al.*

and as maintaining an established system of domestic and social polity, though not favoured by the general diffusion of learning, or by permission to study (generally) the "scroll of knowledge, rich with the spoils of Time." We have lately seen with pleasure, the results of the inquiries of several men of talents and learning among us, who have directed their researches into the more ancient transactions of our country. Mr. Turner has investigated the history of the Anglo-Saxons; and our author has contributed, as became a Cambro Briton, to illustrate several facts in that of their inflexible resisters. Mr. Owen has laid the present age, with succeeding ages, under obligations to his diligence and skill; and the works now proceeding at Bala, will long remain witnesses of the industry and application of the present generation.

Mr. Davies some years ago appeared before the public as the author of "*Celtic Researches*;" in which performance he displayed an active spirit of inquiry, and a mind not startled at novelty. The work before us is, in some respects, an appendix to that undertaking, and manifests a continuation of the same spirit. That the order in which it is arranged, is exactly what we could have wished; or that we differ from the author in some particulars, while we are not inclined to dispute his general inference, is no fault in him, or at least is venial; for many allowances are due to an original writer, who has furnished materials for those who come after him, to elucidate and arrange, at more leisure than he could allow himself.

Mr. D. very properly considers in the first place, the authenticity of the documents which describe British antiquities;—then he takes a general view of Druidical theology—the characters and connections, or rather *significations* of their deities, particularly *Hu*, and *Ked*, or *Ceridwen*, (the Ceres of Grecian antiquity). He then adverts to the circular temples and Cromlechs of the druids, especially to Stonehenge; and he adduces a variety of British poems in justification of his statements. Among these the *Gododin*, or lamentations of a Welsh bard, on account of the slaughter of the British chiefs at Stonehenge is distinguished. Remarks on some ancient British coins conclude the performance.

Where much is accomplished, and with great labour, it is unreasonable perhaps to wish for more; yet we cannot but be of opinion, that Mr. D. would have derived essential assistance from greater familiarity with oriental mythology. The repeated mention of *Bodh*, *Buddh*, and *Budhuas*, as a deity, reminds us of Ceylon; and the name of that island, if it be the *Taprobanes* of Diodorus Siculus, seems to be correctly preserved in the *Defrobani* of the Welsh mythologists. We notice also a circumstance of trivial import, apparently, yet not easily accounted for. Among the ingredients used by the Druids, are mentioned "incense and myrrh and aloes, from beyond the seas," (p. 273). These certainly are oriental productions; and, we apprehend, were anciently obtained from Ceylon. But, it may be asked, by what commerce did the Britons obtain them? This inquiry we cannot pursue; yet with it might be connected a very curious piece of the Hebrew, or rather Phenecian, language, preserved in a Druid song, which Mr. D. though he has written the words in Hebrew characters, has not translated. We must take the liberty of transposing the first two lines of the second stanza, to the end of the first stanza, by way of justifying our view of the subject: we also read ' 3 y for ' 3 N (*anhai*).

The Welsh poet says, "on the day of the sun, there truly assemble *five ships*, with *five hundred men*, embarked in them, who make supplication [*by saying*]

O Brithi Brithi oi
Nu oes nu edi
B-ithi Brithi anhai
Sych edi edi eu roi.

this according to our view of it, imports,

O Britons! Britons!—*we are a ruin!*

Give us a resting place of strength! a resting place of plenty!

Britons! Britons!—*we are distressed!*

Give us a shelter—Plenty—Plenty itself—supply promptly!

"They implore the oracle with loud and continued cry, against the overwhelming" [*deep.*] p. 564.

It is true, that this version sets aside Mr. Davies's reference of this "prayer in a foreign language," to the "mysteries" representing the deluge. It proves, however, that navigators speaking this language, frequented the ports of Britain;

and that their language was understood, at least partially, by the Britons: the commerce which could employ *five ships*, sailing in company, each manned with *a hundred men*, was no bad anticipation of our present intercourse with the East-Indies. There are other Hebrew terms in these poems; and they contribute to establish the fact of an ancient communication with the coasts of Syria.

It will be found, on reflection, that this is not inconsistent with the mention of oriental productions, already alluded to; since they might be imported by these merchants. Moreover, these merchants, if of the Palestine race, were settlers in Syria from the East; and probably of the same religion as the Britons: for the poet immediately adds, "we ALL attend upon *Adonai* [the rites of *Adonis*] on the area of *Pumpai*" [the oracle]. These titles are, apparently, those employed by the strangers.

We do not, however, mean to impeach the general inference of our author, from the testimony of his Cambrian bards, that commemorations of the deluge, of Noah, and of the ark, were established among the Druids: we believe, that there is scarcely a nation where rites of similar intention have not prevailed. Under a thousand different titles has the second father of mankind been venerated: and the most striking events of his history, have been preserved by innumerable references, and repetitions. As to the tradition prevalent in all countries, that these events happened *here*; we consider it as no other than a general testimony to the universality of the deluge; with an acknowledgement of descent from the common patriarch.

It might be possible, we presume, to render some inferences of our author still stronger than he has done. For instance, he says p: 267, speaking of the beaver,

That animal, under the name of *Avanc*, is constantly introduced into the British account of the deluge; and the drawing of him out of the lake, as we have already seen, is represented as a great act, which was conducive to the removing of that calamity. Our ancestors seem to have regarded the *Beaver* as an emblem of the patriarch himself. To this symbolical honour, this creature may have been promoted, by a peculiarity in his natural history. The patriarch had built himself a vessel or house, in which he had lived in the midst of the

waters; and which had deposited that venerable personage and his family, safe upon dry ground. So the Beaver is not only an amphibious animal, but also a distinguished architect. He is said to build a house of two stories, one of which is in the water, and the other above the water; and out of the latter, he has an egress to dry ground. The fanciful genius of heathenism could not have demanded or discovered a more happy coincidence, with the history of the Diluvian patriarch.

Now, we wonder much, how Mr. D. could omit to remark, that the beaver, beside being an amphibious animal, is the only one we know, that unites in himself the characters of a land animal, (a quadruped) and an inhabitant of the waters (a fish). In fact, this creature may be said to justify, by analogy, the representations of sea-animals, half-horses, dogs, &c. with their hinder parts fish-like; and if the beaver did not exist, those allegorical figures would be still more monstrous than they are. But this quadruped, by his fish-like tail, becomes an apt emblem of a something to be drawn out of the water on to the land; and happily alludes (as we suppose) to the ark, drawn to land, rather than to the patriarch, the inhabitant of the ark.

Mr. Davies has done right in giving a plate of ancient British coins; but he has not perceived the support, which might have been derived from more ample communications of them, and a comparison of them with those of other people. His reference of their inscriptions in honour of "*the SHIP of the lady of corn*," might have been illustrated by hundreds of medals, struck at Tyre and Sidon, and the cities on that coast: but if those be thought ambiguous, because of the maritime commerce of such places, let him take other examples; as for instance, the inland town of Bostra in Arabia, where the sea never approached, nor river ran,—yet on the coins of this city we have *the lady of the ship, holding a cornucopia*. Many other instances might be adduced. But we must leave the further examination of these recondite subjects to inquirers of greater leisure:—to whom we remit all allusions to Chrishna the herdsman, with his "*Gopya nine*," [damsels] which might be traced in these British bards.

That these documents of the ancient Welsh bards, have come down to us un-

mingled with posterior variations and additions, Mr. D. does not affirm; and indeed some of these interpolations are so gross, that the first sight detects them. A beginning "*In the name of the God Trinity, exhibit thy charity*," can only be the address of a mendicant, sending his hat round the company: another, which closes with "*May the Trinity grant us mercy in the day of judgement!—A liberal donation, good gentlemen*," is of the same character. Nevertheless, the body of these poems may be genuine, though not always perfect. We must also make allowances for the strain of metaphor, and the vigour of expression adopted by the poets in their productions; and to something of this nature we incline to refer the popular mistake of the slaughter of the bards, by king Edward; for Mr. D. bears explicit testimony, that "*there is not the name of a single bard on record, who suffered, either by his hand, or by his orders*." The simple fact, probably was, that Edward, by introducing his own son, an infant, to be Prince of Wales, removed that source of bardic support, the composing of songs, &c. in honour of the exploits performed by the national princes of the country. Deprived of their emoluments, the bards were said to be slain.

We shall direct our further report on this volume, to three objects: the giving a specimen of the mode of instruction employed by the Druids: a description of some of their ceremonies; and the illustration of an event of British history.

Mr. D. has hardly done justice to the Druidic mode of connecting internal sentiment with external observation.

If in the following specimens, he had marked the seasons of the year, as we have done, he would have admitted the ingenuity of grafting moral duties, on these constantly returning times. This mode may be added to those exemplified in *Panorama*, Vol. III. p. 165, &c.

"It is the eve of winter—social converse
"is pleasant—The gale and the storm keep
"equal pace—To preserve a secret, is the
"part of the skilful (Celyydd).—*Winter*.
"It is the eve of winter. The stags are
"lean—the tops of the birch are yellow:
"deserted is the summer dwelling—Woe
"to him who, for a trifling advantage,
"merits disgrace."—*Winter*.

" Though it be small, yet ingenious is the
" bird's fabric in the skirt of the wood—
" The virtuous and the happy are of equal
" age."—*Spring*.

" Chill and wet is the mountain—Cold is
" the grey ice—Trust in God; he will not
" deceive thee; nor will persevering patience
" leave thee in affliction."—*Winter*.

" It rains without; the brake is drenched
" with the shower—The sand of the sea is
" white with its crown of foam—Patience
" is the fairest light for man."—*Winter*.

" Snow of the mountain! bare is the
" top of the reed—The man of discretion
" cannot associate with the silly—Where
" nothing has been learned, there can be no
" genius."—*Winter*.

" Snow of the mountain! the fish are in
" the shallow stream—The lean, crouching
" stag seeks the shady glen—God will
" prosper the industry of man."—*Spring*.

" Snow of the mountain! the birds are
" tame—The discreetly happy needs only
" to be born—God himself cannot procure
" good for the wicked."—*Autumn*.

The metre is the most ancient, of which
the Welsh have any tradition.

This sententious way of writing has, for
many centuries, become obsolete amongst
the Welsh. Nothing of this character is
found in those Bards who have written since
the Norman conquest. Even the metre has
scarcely been used since the time of Llywarch
Hên, in the sixth century. Taliesin and
Aneurin seem to have rejected it as antiquated,
and too simple and unadorned.

Were we to conjecture what book in
popular use among us, would be discovered
by our posterity, two thousand
years hence, perhaps Watts's " Songs for
Children," from the number of copies
that have been printed of it, might be
that book; but it would be unfair to con-
clude, that all the learning of the times
was comprized in Watts's Songs; are we
not in some such situation, with respect
to Druidical learning?—and might not
these, and other moral precepts of a like
nature, be their " songs for children,"
or for youth? As instances of superior
researches, the reader will accept the
following. Taliesin demands of his disciple,

" Knowest thou what thou art,
" In the hour of sleep—
" A mere body—a mere soul—
" Or a secret retreat of light?"

" O skilful son of harmony,
" Why wilt thou not answer me?

" Knowest thou where the night awaits
" For the passing of the day?

" Knowest thou the token (mark or cha-
" racter)

" Of every leaf which grows?

" What is it which heaves up the mountain

" Before the convulsion of elements?

" Or what supports the fabric

" Of the habitable earth?

" Who is the illuminator of the soul—

" Who has seen—who knows him!"

" Who carried the measuring line of the

" Lord of causes—what scale was used,

" when the heavens were reared aloft; and

" who supported the curtain, from the earth
" to the skies?"

These questions remind us of the books
of Job, and Isaiah.

It is certain that preparatory to their
mysteries, or it might be as the first of
them, the Druids prepared a sacred water,
by infusing in it herbs of various qualities:
and ablution by this, was, probably the
first rite undergone by an aspirant.

It may be inferred, that the *pair*, was a
vessel employed by the Druids, in preparing
a decoction of potent herbs and other ingre-
dients, to which superstition attributed some
extraordinary virtues; that this preparation
was a preliminary to the mysteries of the
arkite goddess; that in those mysteries, part
of the decoction was used for the purpose of
purification by *sprinkling*; that another part
was applied to the consecration of the mystic
bath: that a small portion of the same deco-
ction, was infused into the vessels which
contained the liquor, exhibited in the great
festival, for the purpose of libation, or for
the use of the priests and aspirants, which
liquor is described as consisting of *Gwin a
Bragawd*, that is, *wine with mead*, and
wort, fermented together: that all the sacred
vessels employed in the mysteries of [the god-
dess] Ceridwen, being thus *purified* and
consecrated by the *pair*, passed under its
name; and that, in these appropriations,
the water of the cauldron was deemed the
water of *inspiration, science, and immortality*,
as conducing to the due celebration of mys-
teries, which were supposed to confer these
benefits upon the votaries.

But it seems that the residue of the water,
being supposed to have washed away the
mental impurities, of course it became im-
pregnated, was now deemed *deleterious* and
accursed. It was therefore emptied into a
deep pit or channel in the earth, which
swallowed it up, together with the sins of
the regenerate.

The impregnation of water with moral
qualities, is still believed in Africa: an
idea not unlike it, appears to have been
attached to the water of jealousy, under
the Mosaic institution; but the close of

this ceremony, most strongly reminds us of Lucian's description of the pouring of water, through a cleft in a rock, at the temple of Hierapolis. The last of the mystic rites was, an adventurous voyage by the Aspirant, in a coracle, from the sea beach to a distant point of rock. This was no cowardly undertaking; but might well become a bold sailor:—Has the nation in later ages, reaped the fruit of this emulation?

The grand annual festival of these priests was on the beginning of May: it is thus described in one of the poems.

A song of dark import was composed by the distinguished *Ogdoad*, who assembled on the day of the moon, [*Monday*] and went in open procession: on the day of Mars, [*Tuesday*] they allotted wrath to their adversaries: on the day of Mercury, [*Wednesday*] they enjoyed full pomp: on the day of Jove, [*Thursday*] they were delivered from the detested usurpers: on the day of Venus, [*Friday*] the day of the great influx, they swam in the blood of men: on the day of Saturn on the day of the sun, [*Sunday*] there truly assemble five ships, and five hundred of those who make supplication—"O *Brithi Brithi oi*, &c. " O son of the compacted wood, " the shock overtakes me: we all attend upon " *Adonai*, on the area of *Pumpai*."

This is somewhat differently stated in one of the stanzas of the *Gododin*.

In the festival of May, they celebrated the praise of the holy ones, in the presence of the *purifying fire*, which was made to ascend on high. On the Tuesday they wore dark garments—on the Wednesday, they purified their fair attire—on the Thursday, they truly performed their due rites (devoted)—on the Friday, the victims were conducted round the circle—on the Saturday, their united exertion was displayed without [in] the circular dance (didwrn)—on the Sunday, the men with red blades were conducted round the circle—on the Monday, was seen the deluge of gore, up to the belt.

This Monday, was no doubt, the day of the greatest festivity: in this passage the "deluge of gore," alludes to the slaughter of the Britons at Stonehenge, by the Saxons.

If we compare these accounts, we find, that the druids practiced the *Bal-tein*,* the *purifying fire* that was made to ascend on high, [hence our *bonfire*; and boys leaping through it]: This introduced their rites on the Monday; on the Tuesday,

clad in dark garments, they allotted wrath to their adversaries, *i. e.* condemned those who had transgressed their rules; on the Wednesday, they purified their garments, (white we suppose,) and enjoyed their full pomp; on the Thursday, they put to death those who had been condemned;—on the Friday, the bodies of the slain were carried in public procession; on the Saturday, were joyous dancings by all the assembly; on the Sunday, the men who had slain the victims, were honoured for the services they had rendered.——As this was a general assembly of the nation, these executions might be a public distribution of justice. Do the balls in our country towns at Assize times, present any analogy?

Mr. Davies traces the origin of the romances, which delighted later ages, to the times and tales of the Druids: the subject deserves further investigation.

Because we desire to exemplify the advantage that may be derived from these historic songs,—and moreover, because we desire to suggest a subject, which possibly may prove the introduction to fame, of some rising artist of vigorous genius, we shall combine those incidents which are mentioned in the *thirty-one* songs of the *Gododin*, or lamentation for the slaughter of the Saxons at Stonehenge. They present a striking view of that treacherous exploit.

Vortigern the British king had procured his ascent to the throne, by the murder (by beheading) of his cousin Constans, in his bed.—His accession being powerfully opposed, he invited the Saxons to his assistance, but they had been beaten back to their ships, by Vortimer, and obliged to return home. They were, however, a second time invited, by Rowena, (the daughter of Hengist the Saxon commander) whom Vortigern had married, and the Saxon chief proposed a meeting of the principal personages of both parties professedly to establish peace. This took place on the Monday, following those solemn rites with which the Druids entered May.

The number of British chiefs present, was "three, and three score, and three hundred." None but chiefs were admitted to the carousal. A large booth was run up of coarse timber, wattled: it stood on the *Cursus*, about half a mile in front of Stonehenge; at a barrier, on

* Compare *Panorama*, Vol. V. p. 240.

the causeway leading to that temple, before a perpetual fire.

The characters present were

HENGIST, who proposed a mixed assembly, where neither shield nor spear should be admitted—pleading that—“Thus there could be no strife among the jovial company; but the heroes would be preserved from a sudden stroke.” He cut his own shield into *laths*, and induced the Britons to lay aside their shields, under the pretence that they obstructed the light of the torches.—The drinking continued from twilight to twilight,—and at early dawn, Hengist gave the signal for slaughter, by rising up, and giving the first thrust to the British general Vortimer, who had formerly defeated his forces. Vortimer defended himself valiantly, but in vain. Hengist also slew the chief bard, Owen, with many others. Hengist was adorned with a wreath of amber beads, twined about his temples.—

ROWENA, daughter of Hengist, who placed the guests according to their dignity: a Briton unarmed, and a Saxon armed, alternately. The Saxons wore their coats of mail—they concealed the *seax*, their long knife, (sometimes jagged at the back) in their sleeves. The Britons wore gold chains.—

VORTIGERN, who knew of the intended treachery of Hengist, but hoped thereby to destroy his opponents: he had ordered horses to ensure his flight from the fray: but he was seized by Hengist, and imprisoned, after the massacre.—

EIDIOL, president of the bards; also, governor of the feast; he rode on horseback, within the inclosure, on a grey steed: his shield hung by the side of his horse; he had a long *blue* staff, on which he leaned, “the assuager of tumults;” this he extended (in vain) to repress the carnage; he afterwards defended himself valiantly with it, and killed several Saxons. He ordered the neighbouring corn stacks to be set on fire, by means of burning furze; and by this, he terrified the Saxons, and prevented them from plundering the temple and its repositories, as they had intended.—

The British DIVINER, who had some suspicion of the project: but Hengist had only confided it to his confidants: “not to the vulgar.”

After the Britons had been all night drinking mead and beer to intoxication,—

after their noisy mirth, prolonged by the light of torches, they were slain with the blades of the Saxons:—only *three* escaped with life, and these were wounded.

What event in British history, presents so much of the *picturesque*? The season, May,—the time, morning twilight—the light of the torches—the fire kindled by Eidiol,—the strongly diversified characters present:—the temple in the back ground, strongly illuminated,—the costume,—the surrounding Druids and multitude, are circumstances so favourable to the pencil, that we depend on the indulgence of our readers, in behalf of the arts, for the length and particularity with which we have stated them.

The Gentleman's Veterinary Monitor and Stable Guide, a Concise Treatise on the various Diseases of Horses, their Symptoms, and most humane Methods of Cure. By Yorick Wilson, Veterinary Surgeon, Leamington, near Warwick. Pocket Size, Price 3s. 6d. Bone and Hone, London, 1809.

MR. WILSON, the ingenious and humane author of this little volume, is a respectable professor of his art, and appears to consider the mysteries and secrets of farriery as less valuable than common sense and common honesty; and to think that the exercise of these two qualities, which we value so much in the common concerns of life, is more essential in preserving the health of a horse, and curing his diseases, than all the compounds that have been published in the pharmacopœia of farriery. The title fully bespeaks the subject of the treatise before us. The subjects are alphabetically arranged, and treated with clearness and simplicity. The treatise is intelligent, and abounds with practical information, comprized in a portable volume; the author's object has been rather to make a useful than a large book.

We would not be understood to discourage ingenious and scientific men from discussing a subject that is far from being exhausted; but we would recommend it to future writers on veterinary medicine, to consider whether a simple and correct model, as free from technical jargon as possible, be not preferable to what we

sometimes meet with in works of a more elaborate nature.

Upon some points we could give the author a few hints, for which he would thank us. We have however little doubt, but that his judgment and candour will suggest to him much of what we should notice; and that in another edition we shall have occasion to give him credit for additional industry, and judicious improvement.

Poems and Translations, from the Minor Greek Poets and others; written chiefly between the Ages of ten and sixteen, by a Lady. 8vo. pp. 198. Price 6s. Longman and Co London, 1808. Second edition.

THE fugitive pieces, which compose this collection, were written chiefly between the ages of eleven and sixteen, in the leisure hours allowed by a domestic education. They are published with the timidity excited by their imperfections; but with a most grateful sense of the indulgence they have already received from a liberal public.

The translations or imitations of the minor Greek poets were the productions of a still earlier age. A most indulgent father, in the retirement permitted by his station in the Church, found amusement in familiarising his only child with the poets of antiquity.

Such is the fair writer's statement. The poems are pretty. As to the propriety of familiarising so young a mind with the poet of love and wine, in his original language, that must rest on circumstances, of which, while this lady preserves her *incognito*, we cannot pretend to judge. But, we shall select our specimens of the talents of the fair authoress from what we consider as more favourable to the efforts of her muse.

The Soldier's Return; or The Midnight Wanderers.

[Written in Scotland, at twelve years of age.]

Sold.—What taper lends its dying gleam
Thro' yonder casement low?
And who is she by Leven's stream,
Whose footsteps print the snow?

Jessie—Ere sin' the dew-fall of the night
You blinking lamp I bore,
To seek a father guld and blind,
And guide him o'er the moor.

Sold.—A kirk-yard turf, a nameless stane,
Maun soon thy father hide;
Then leave him, Jessie, and be mine,
A wealthy soldier's bride.

If never meant to cherish love
That smile would no be thine,
Those eyes would be less bright and
clear,
If never meant to shine.

Jessie—O never in my father's cot
Shall sorrow dim my e'e,
Nor ever shall thy proffer'd love
Allure a smile frae me.
My tears I shed in yon kirk-yard
Beside my mother's stane;
My smiles I keep to cheer our board,
And soothe a father's pain.

Sold.—Yet turn, my Jessie, turn and smile,
Thy waefu' task resign:
His prop may be thy brother's love,
But thine maun a' be mine.

Jessie—Cauld is my brother Arthur's love;
Twice ten lang years are gane,
Sin' pierced wi' mony a ghastly wound,
They found him 'mang the slain.

Sold.—If Arthur's love, now dead wi' him,
Sic saft regret can claim,
Thy kindest smiles should cheer the
heart
Which feeds a living flame.

Jessie—Far mair, kind soger, mair than a',
That boasted wealth I'd gie,
For one ray of the morning light
To cheer my father's e'e.
Far mair I'd gie to guard the turf
That laps my brother's head,
Fair mair I'd gie to bless the hand
That smooth'd his dying bed.

Sold.—And can a brother lost sae lang
To Jessie still be dear?
Then lift again that tender eye,
Behold thy brother here!

Jessie—O mock an e'e unwet wi' tears,
A blither heart beguile,
That raven's voice can no be his,
Nor his that ghastly smile.
It could na' be that chilling grasp,
His hand wad gi' to mine,
It could na' be in Arthur's e'e
That sickly joy wad shine.

Sold.—Unseen maun be the tender joy
Which melts a soldier's eyes,
The gentle grasp, the saft caress
A soldier's hand denies.
Yet still the warmth these hands refuse,
In Arthur's bosom dwells,
And still his deeds shall crown the bliss
His eye no longer tells.
Around that chill'd and breaking heart
Lie'st saftest bands shall twine;
Thy cares have sooth'd a father's wags,
I live to finish thine!

*Imitations of various Styles of Poetry.
A Persian Dirge.*

Sleep, gentle Bard! around thy bed
Let Shirauz' balmy flowers entwine;
For thee her perfum'd lap shall spread,
Her richest gifts shall still be thine!
The tow'ring fir, the date-crown'd palm,
Shall here unite their sov'reign shade,
While melting rocks distil their balm
To bathe the tomb where thou art laid!

Chorus. Lah Illah! Ill Lillah!—

Here let the heart dissolv'd in joy
Its warm, luxuriant tribute leave;
Such tears as gem the love-taught eye
Let Hafez' sacred dust receive.

But here no prostituted hand
Shall wound with yells his native skies;
No tutor'd tear, no purchas'd hand,†
Profanes the grave where Hafez lies.

For him let richer gifts abound,
No sullen homage here prepare;
Pleas'd may his spirit linger round,
And still its best-lov'd banquet share.

Bring myrrh, the silver grape ‡ invade,
Enrich with sweets his long repose;
Let olive-wreaths his pillow shade,
Or steep'd in wine, the saffron rose.

And blue-eyed nymphs, Circassia's pride,
Shall here their treasure'd charms unfold;

Their feet in purer purple dy'd,
Their tresses bright with liquid gold.

No lurking Gaur's § unhallow'd fire
Shall Shirauz' envied vale affright;

The partial sun shall here retire,
And kiss thy grave with soften'd light.

Chorus. Sleep, gentle Bard, &c.

The Philosopher's Return.

Yes, sweet is the hour when the Pilgrim returning,
Sees love and Felicity smile at his door;
While brightly the taper of Hymen is burning,
And long-treasur'd Friendship enriches his store!
Like him I return not! But why should I sigh?
Brisk Fancy shall banquets and treasures supply;
Tho' lonely my cottage, its sweets are my own,
My peace is my wealth, and my freedom my throne.

But when the keen stings of indifference meet him,
When first the rich visions of friendship depart,

* Hafez, the Anacreon of Persia, lies buried in the delicious vale of Shirauz, where the young and gay constantly assemble.

† It is the custom in Persia to hire mourners, who make loud lamentations.

‡ The palm, remarkable for bearing dates on its summit; the white grape and yellow rose are highly esteemed in Persia.

§ The Gaur's, or fire-worshippers, though strictly forbidden, sometimes continue their orgies in this spot.

When clos'd is the eye which once sparkled to greet him,

And fled is the smile which gave heav'n to his heart,
Ah! then let the exile his ruin deplore!

Then deep is the wound—but I feel it no more!
Since few are my riches, unfetter'd I roam,
A soul without stain is tranquillity's home.

Where now is the spell that to Lucy allur'd me?
Where now is the beauty I lived to adore?

'Tis past! Shall I murmur if reason has cured me,
Or mourn that a meteor deceives me no more?

Let Beauty still flutter in Life's peevish morn,
Let Love like the rainbow its vapours adorn;

But who would the fugitive insect enchain,
Or bid the frail rainbow for ever remain?

Or why the cold shadows of mem'ry pursuing,
Why, days of my youth, should I languish for you?

For Life, like the phoenix, shall rise from its ruin,
To Beauty immortal and joys ever new.

No more for the downfall of friendship I mourn,
Its root is enrich'd tho' its branches are shorn;

Still, still in my bosom I feel it extend,
The world is my palace, all nature my friend.

In Life's little warfare contentedly neuter,

I ask not for rapture, I shrink not from pain;

I cherish the present, I welcome the future,
But pleasures departed I woo not again.

Fond Lovers! ye tell me my bosom is cold,

But ice may the purest of spirits enfold;

In Lapland's chill caverns the amethyst glows,

The olive may bloom amid Appennine snows!

Yes, sweet is the hour to the Pilgrim returning,
When Reason's clear sunbeam illumines his breast,

Contentment and Truth from adversity learning,
Religion his tutor, and Quiet his guest!

Where'er fickle fortune his pilgrimage guides,
Brisk Fancy her banquets and pleasures provides;

New friendships shall greet him, new Edens extend;

His soul is his haven, all nature his friend!

Some verses of a still earlier age are inserted in the Appendix. The whole is a very pleasing instance of early genius.

A Dictionary of Practical Surgery: containing a complete exhibition of the present State of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, collected from the best and most original Sources of Information, and illustrated by Critical Remarks. By Samuel Cooper. 8vo. pp. 750. Price 15s. Murray, London, 1809.

SEVEN hundred and fifty closely printed pages on a small type, must contain a mass of information. It is true,

that a Dictionary cannot enter very much at large, into various points of great importance in practical surgery: but by way of counterbalance to this inconvenience, it may suggest hints on matters that seldom come within the early experience of professional men. Whoever trusts to dictionary instruction, when it has been in his power to procure better, may have cause to repent his rashness. But he is an extraordinary man of whom it may be truly said, that he can add nothing to his stock of knowledge from a work like the present.

This volume is the result of great labour: the author has had recourse to the best writers, and has largely extracted from them. Perhaps, there are some still later publications than those which he has principally studied, that might have been consulted with advantage. There are also some late particulars omitted. Indeed, a work of this nature will always have occasion to conform more or less, to the immediate state of science. And in the present day, sciences of every description change their appearances with wonderful rapidity.

The author, in a modest preface has hinted at sentiments not very distant from those we have stated. He acknowledges his obligations to Pott and to Scarpa, (he might have added John Hunter) and other eminent surgeons. He has had the accommodation of the practitioners of the army and navy, in view, in adopting the form and size of his volume; and we doubt not, but what many of them will avail themselves of the information it contains.

We do not profess to have examined the articles of this work closely: those which we have perused, have generally contained as much as could reasonably be expected; leading ideas, though not all that an inquisitive mind might desire.

A few plates of the less common instruments, and some other articles, would have added much to the utility of the volume. The hint for an *extempore* invention may occasionally be of great importance; and this may be derived from what a student has seen represented, though he has not used it. That practitioner may happily vary a contrivance to suit an occasion, who would not have originated one equally neat, and efficient.

A Sermon preached at the Parish Church of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe and St. Anne, Blackfriars, on Tuesday in Whitsun Week, May 23, 1809, before the Society for Missions to Africa and the East, instituted by Members of the Established Church, being their Ninth Anniversary. By the Rev. Legh Richmond, M. A. Rector of Turvey, Bedfordshire. Also the Report of the Committee. 8vo. Price 2s. Seeley, London, 1809.

We have felt on sundry occasions, the reproach cast on Protestants by the members of the Catholic church, that they have been wholly void of endeavours to extend the knowledge of Christianity; or as it is expressed by Muratori, in his Relations of the Missions to Paraguay,

"Let the modern sectaries," *i. e.* the Protestants, "be considered: this heroic charity will not be found amongst them. They are wholly bent on extending their dominions; and leave the bringing over of idolaters and infidels to the belief of the gospel, to the missionaries of the Catholic church; and freely resign to them the inestimable advantage of being consumed with evangelical labours, and exposing their lives to enlarge the kingdom of Jesus Christ. — Hence, — the church in communion with Rome, is the only one that keeps up the first spirit of Christianity: she alone, like the primitive church, abounds in apostles and martyrs: — hence she alone is the spouse of the Saviour of mankind."

As the Catholic church is now situated, we know not by what means she can continue her efforts. The least, therefore, that we expect from the zeal of Protestants is, to compensate this cessation of the Catholics: but we hope for much more; and this the rather, when we read the preacher's opinion, that

The growing attention of serious Christians to the fulfilment of prophecy, as it concerns the downfall of Popery, the restoration of the Jews, the conversion of the Gentiles, and the approach of the Millennium, all of which are intimately connected with missionary plans, seems to mark the present as a signal period for exertion. When the spirit of inquiry was extensively circulated respecting the fulfilment of the prophecies that concerned the birth of Christ, John the Baptist was sent as a missionary to prepare the way of the Lord.

The naval and commercial eminence of this country, greater than that of all others

at this present time, point it out as a most favourable period for the universal extension of the gospel of Christ. If we, as a nation, providentially possess the empire of the seas, it becomes peculiarly incumbent upon us to sanctify our political privileges, by carrying the doctrines of salvation to all the various heathen nations, with whom those privileges afford us an intercourse.

I would not here omit to notice that happy consummation of the wishes of the pious and humane, in the late Abolition of the Slave Trade. It affords one of the most powerful arguments for present exertion, in the way of missions to that part of the world, to which the designs of this Society are now particularly directed—*Æthiopia* hath not stretched out her hands in vain to man, for deliverance from the slavery of the body. May she soon learn to stretch out her hands unto God; and seek deliverance from the still more dreadful captivity of the soul!

In furtherance of this design, Mr. Richmond addresses many cogent arguments to his auditors; and speaks with proper seriousness of the importance of the work. He also pays a well-deserved tribute of commendation to the labours of the Moravian brethren, and to their manner of conducting them. The address is animating. The text is John xxi.-16.

The ninth Anniversary Report, annexed to the sermon, will be read with interest: the Abolition of the Slave Trade has produced a great difference in the condition of Africa: the natives having hitherto seen only slave-dealers, wonder at the change, the principles of which they do not comprehend.

Mr. Nylander has continued, without interruption, his care of the colony's spiritual concerns. Mr. Renner, during his residence in Freetown, had baptized 114 children and 9 adults. Mr. Hartwig baptized 4; and Mr. Nylander 26, besides a number of adult Maroons, and a Mandingo man and woman. Of the last mentioned, Mr. Nylander says, "without doubt, they have experienced the grace of God in their souls." Among those whom Mr. Renner baptized were 6 converted Maroons, three of each sex. Mr. Nylander instructed 30 Maroon, 4 native, and 6 settler boys, 1 native man, and 6 adult Maroons, some of whom are married men.

The committee have increased the sum voted for assisting in translating the scriptures in the East, from £200 to £500. They also have extended their benevolent intentions to New Zealand.—The following is the state of the Society's fund.

State of Fund, March 31, 1809.

Balance in hand of treasurer, £ s. d.			
March 31, 1808	426	8	7½

RECEIVED.

Annual subscriptions to March 21, 1809	896	14	0
Donations	379	11	10
Congregational collections	841	18	5½
One year's interest on £4000. 3 per cent. cons. (less Property tax)	108	0	0
Return of Property tax, by order of Commissioners.....	12	0	0
Sale of India Bonds	718	2	2
From Sierra Leone Company, for the use of one of the missionaries as chaplain, from July to Dec. 1807 (half a year)	60	0	0
Interest on Exchequer bills.....	33	3	7

£3475 18 8

PAID.

On the African mission	991	14	9
On the Missionary Seminary ...	240	4	3½
On the New Zealand settlement	106	6	6
Rev. John Jœnicke, Berlin: disbursements to missionaries ...	55	0	0
Stationary, printing, and books	205	4	3
Incidental expences, salaries, advertisements, collector &c....	239	2	0
For India Bonds	707	19	6
For exchequer bills	610	10	0

3156 1 3½

Balance in hand, Mar. 31, 1809	319	17	4½
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£3475 18 8

The Treasures of Terpsichore; or, a Companion for the Ball-Room. Being a Collection of all the most popular English Country Dances, arranged alphabetically, with proper Figures to each Dance; together with all the New Dances for 1809. By T. Wilson, Dancing Master from the King's Theatre, Opera House. Pp. 130, price 4s. 6d. London, for the Author, 1809.

Ecce iterum Crispinus!—Mr. Wilson! dear Mr. Wilson!* Mr. Wilson the dancing master from the King's Theatre, the Italian Opera House! The Censor of the age: yes, indeed!—who sees the cause of all our disasters, at a single glance of his eye; and judges (we believe rightly)

* Compare *Panorama*, Vol. V. p. 62

that all the mishaps of the United Kingdom, arise from some folks not making their due movements in proper time and place. What can be expected, when those to whom the nation looks up as its first couples, and who are offended if any doubt their talents, confuse their partners, by attempting to go down a dance of which they know not the figure?—they may well be called out to the field, to settle a *faur-pas* by a random shot at a *rendez-vous*. Had they applied to Mr. Wilson, he would have told them, that a leg lamed for life is not likely to improve the grace or agility of a dancer's motions. He dreads lest this delightful amusement "will shortly dwindle into mere running;" and he would not for the world, that Buonaparte should catch us amidst such a "chaos of riot and confusion." He censures severely the "puppies of the day," who attempt to practice, in defiance of the rules of art, and the "numbers of harmony;" and rests his hopes on "the hob-nails and wooden shoes of the rustics of the hamlet." Now, we assure ourselves, after the key we gave to this profound writer's lucubrations on a former occasion, that the reader can be at no loss to discover who Mr. W. points at under the somewhat cynical, but expressive term "puppies:"—for certainly he closely touches some very great folks, in very high life:—his compliment to the volunteers, however, is equally graceful and applicable. Not less satirical are the titles he has given to his dances: his "*Money in both Pockets*," alludes (or we are mistaken) either to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or to a certain great contractor: his "*Cameronian Rant*," is rather too personal;—nor need he have marked so officiously, some late dissensions among his Majesty's servants, by his "*Devil among the Tailors*," a dance which he thus describes—"Double Figure: Hey contrary sides,—Hey of your own side:—down the middle, up again, allemande, — and turn corners, —." At the same exalted characters, or at least at a *division* of them, he jeers, by whispering, "*Go to the Devil and shake yourself*"—and this, too, he says is a "*Double Figure: Half right and left:—down the middle, up again, allemande:—swing corners:—and lead outside:—*" "*Leading outsides*" may be well enough; but as to the "*swinging*," we hope that movement may be dispensed

with; and something else be substituted to finish the dance.

If any can mistake Mr. W's. meaning in these directions, they must be ill fitted for politicians: and if Mr. W. wears his ears to the full length of their natural life, he may think himself extremely fortunate. As to the liberties he has taken in proposing hornpipes for "Lord Gambier" and "Lord Collingwood," we must excuse a land lubber who does not understand sea affairs: their lordships dance no such hornpipes: "Lord St. Vincent's hornpipe!!"—while his lordship would be glad if the gout would leave him a leg to stand on. Mr. W. should have recalled some idea of naval tactics—"Form the line—set to your partners, right hands and left—range down the middle—tack—up again—hands all round—ladies strike to the gentlemen: who lead up twenty sail of their fair antagonists in triumph." But to say truth, the ladies themselves are not spared by this modern Juvenal: for, that he censures the scanty clothing which the present fashion enacts, is evident, by his "*Long life to the Petticoat*:"—and to the wearers of it; say we,—but then,—another *breadth*, ladies, or no "*long life*." Such is our Report on the "*Treasures of Terpsichore*"—but it contains other mysteries and revelations, which none can express like Mr. Wilson: and these, as we do not chuse to intermeddle with such deeps and profundities, he shall express in his own words; for, to say truth,

None but himself can be his parallel!

In our modern assemblies, the lady who has the temerity to call a dance composed of more than two parts, or what is called a single figure, is instantly pronounced the wife or daughter of a *cheesemonger* or *oilman*,—no member of the *ton*,—a jackdaw among pigeons.

It indeed appears now, in fashionable life, a crime to attempt any thing that requires a capacity beyond what the more sagacious brutes are endowed with; for *bad dancing* is now considered as strong a proof of *good breeding*, as *bad writing*, *good driving*, or *boxing*.

Sorry am I to say, that so far from any attempt being made by PROFESSIONAL MEN, to restore it to what it once was, they rather seem to confirm whatever follies the fops and puppies of the day attempt to practise, in defiance of the rules of art and the numbers of harmony.

The present times would give a foreigner a deplorable idea of the English nation, if he were to judge from their country-dancing, which is considered one of their principal amusements, and is, in my opinion, a credit to the nation when properly conducted and executed; if not, it wants only the addition of grimaces to reduce it to the dances of the savages of Terra del Fuego.....

It is indeed lamentable that our amusements should be on the decline, while the arts, sciences, and manufactures flourish beyond all precedent among us. *At a period, too, when a powerful and inveterate enemy is endeavouring to surpass us in every art and science, and who would, perhaps, rejoice to hear that we could neither dance, paint, nor write; we should therefore endeavour to do every thing in the best manner possible, not only for our own satisfaction, but for the credit of our country.* For, trifling as it may appear, I will venture to assert, that if a foreigner of distinction were but to describe at his court the present state of English Country Dancing, it would be considered a national disgrace; and what is more probable than that some ambassador or nobleman, at this very instant, is employing his leisure hours in editing a work, describing the manners, customs, &c. of the English nation? And where do we ever find a tour through a country, or a description of a people, where their Dancing is not, in some way or other, touched upon....

Will it be believed, that a nation where the sacred standard of liberty wantons in every breeze,—whose invincible navies sweep the vast bosom of the ocean,—where the stores of rich Pomona's lap are showered spontaneously,—where Thames, the world's great cornucopia, rolls his majestic waves,—a land whose senators thunder eloquence in the cause of freedom,—where Famine never shews his meagre face, or grisly War expands his raven wings,—whose yellow fields are never nurtured by the blood of their swains, shed in domestic broils,—where beauty sits in rosy smiles on every female face, and arts or arms distinguisheth every male, who boast with conscious pride the birth of a Shakespeare, a Newton, a Locke, a Reynolds, and a thousand other illustrious names, whose merits have so largely and eminently contributed to raise the human character to its present exalted situation?—and can such a people, said I, be defective in their amusements?—must not the same exalted genius that nerves the warrior's arm, that animates the glowing canvas, and breathes immortal verse, direct their pastimes, and that as near perfection as their labours?—Oh yes, it must be so; I have deceived myself, and wronged the Parnassus of the world; I have sought merit at a pavilion, whose portals are never opened but by golden keys.....

VOL. VII. [Lit. Pan. Oct. 1809.]

It will doubtless be considered by many who read this preface, a ridiculous attempt of mine in endeavouring to prove that *good dancing* is requisite to preserve a **HIGH NATIONAL CHARACTER**.....

Is it not disgraceful that our Managers of the Opera House are compelled to resort to *foreign cities* for their principal Dancers? To think our best dancers are so deficient in every requisite, that at the appearance of a Deshayes or a Vestris, they must “hide their diminished heads,” and appear only to present the contrast between excellence and deficiency.

This certainly can be accounted for in no other way than by the *want of talent in the community*; for it is reasonable to suppose, that among a thousand good Dancers, some would be excellent, some would be admirable; but where nearly all are bad, some few may be tolerable, but none excellent.

Painting was as inferior in this country as Dancing is now: every nobleman, if he wanted pictures, sent to the Continent for some foreign painter. Now, on the contrary, since the establishment of the Royal Academy by our present gracious Sovereign, that divine art has arrived to a degree of perfection unparalleled in England: our annual exhibitions are the wonder and delight of the connoisseur at home, and when the blessings of peace permit foreigners to view them, they must excite the admiration of the world.

A stimulation is only wanting to place the English Dancers on a footing with the English Painters; but Dancing being only an amusement, perhaps is not likely to be promoted by its professors, not being formed into a corporate body as the Painters are.

As, unfortunately, there is no Royal Academy for DANCING, Mr. Wilson proceeds to inform the public, that,

Its advancement therefore must depend on those who teach it. With this view I present the British Public with the *Treasures of Terpsichore*, for which I claim no other merit than the first idea of doing it, being sensible how many gentlemen there are of my profession who could have done it in a way equal, if not superior, to myself.

My future exertions, I flatter myself, will be such as, if properly seconded by PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMEN, will completely reform the present deplorable state of country dancing; which circumstance alone will cause the superior departments to advance in proportion: we may then perhaps have the satisfaction to hear of an Englishman blending all the powers of attraction, drawing down the reiterated plaudits of approbation from the Parisians, to the credit of himself and his country.

D

Remarks on Theatres; and on the Propriety of Vaulting them with Brick and Stone: with Observations on the Construction of Domes, and the Vaults of the Free and Accepted Masons. By the Author of A Treatise of the Properties of Arches and their Abutment Piers. pp. 75. 3 Plates, Price 7s. J. Taylor, London: 1809.

It costs very little more, generally speaking, to do a thing right, than to do it wrong: that greater expense or labour may be demanded in the first instance is true, but a proper lapse of time convinces the ingenuous that the additional trouble taken at first is afterwards amply compensated. That the attention of architects should be called by late events, in which the ravages of fire were truly awful, to consider the best means for providing against such calamities, is no more than natural. The skill necessary to give example of the practicability of the plans suggested with such intent, would be very laudably employed. Every attempt to impart security to the place where a multitude assembles, deserves attention: the hints of the many will be improved to efficiency by the few. Mr. Ware has been struck with the empire assumed by the element fire, over theatrical structures: and he calculates that about half the original cost of such buildings, put out at compound interest at 3 per cent. would be just sufficient to re-produce the capital sunk, at the period when a theatre may be expected to be destroyed by fire. Within twenty years previous to 1782, when the calculation was made, fire had consumed the theatres of Vienna, Milan, Stockholm, Venice, Bologna, Lyons, Paris, Mantua, Amsterdam, and Saragossa, with other minor erections. The theatres of Amsterdam and Saragossa were burnt during the performances; on which occasions multitudes perished.

Mr. W. gives the periods in which the following were consumed by fire:

Opera House	.... 1704....	85 years
Drury Lane	..... 1682....	10
Do 2d time	.... 1794....	15
Covent Garden	.... 1733....	75
Pantheon	..... 1772....	20
Astley's Amphit.	.. 1750....	44
Do. 2d time	.... 1794....	9
Royal Circus	..... 1778....	27

It appears by our author's tables that the average duration of theatres is not great: it does not amount to forty years.

Who, after this enumeration will refuse to acknowledge, that it is the duty of those who invite company to behold their performances, to take every precaution against the danger which surrounds them? Whether buildings of such hazardous character should be tolerated? may become a question among politicians; but that they ought to be most anxiously constructed for safety, can be no question among architects. Our author, who has lately been examining with laudable attention the principles on which those cathedrals which we term Gothic, extant among us, are constructed, was led to infer, that if so great a proportion of stone and brick, incombustible matters, were used in them, and so little of timber, that these might afford us a lesson on construction, which might be applicable as well to theatres as to churches. He is right; but, to what he suggests must be added other gothic maxims: narrow doors and windows, in solid walls ranging in continued lengths from end to end of buildings; divisions into apartments, properly to be called *bazes*; whereby if an accident happen in one its effects may be confined to that alone.

Mr. W. pays most attention to the roof; this, though important, we think should not monopolize attention: for though we admit, that "if the roof be preserved, the walls will [*may*] remain uninjured," yet we apprehend that fire seldom begins in the roof. If the roof of a cathedral be vaulted with stone, that the roof of a theatre of the same or smaller dimensions, may be vaulted with stone, also, is the postulate enforced by our author; and its truth must be admitted.

To render it more evident he annexes a table of the heights and widths of the principal theatres in Europe; for the purpose of comparison with the same dimensions of several of our churches, of which the roofs are covered with stone. We deem this comparison interesting.

The theatres at Florence and Bologna have ceilings of brick and stone: those at Turin, Naples, and many others, have their lobbies, corridors, and staircases, of the same materials.

Heights and Widths of the principal Theatres in Europe, taken from various Publications on Theatres, &c.—The first column denotes the widths between the backs of the boxes; the second, the heights from the pit floor to the ceiling.

Parma	102 : 0	0 : 0
San Carlo, Naples*	89 : 0	70 : 0
Argentino, Rome...	63 : 0	46 : 0
Bologna	72 : 0	61 : 6
Milan	73 : 0	69 : 0
Turin	65 : 0	53 : 0
San Benedetto, Venice	77 : 0	0 : 0
Imola	54 : 0	42 : 0
Manheim	49 : 0	56 : 0
Bordeaux	61 : 0	0 : 0
Berlin	52 : 0	0 : 0
Ancien Théâtre de l'Opéra, Paris ...	51 : 0	42 : 0
Nouv. Salle de l'Opéra, Paris	68 : 0	0 : 0
Théâtre Italien, Paris	52 : 0	0 : 0
Théâtre de la Nation, Paris	64 : 0	52 : 0
Salle des Machines du château des Tuileries	46 : 0	46 : 0
Covent Garden, London	53 : 0	31 : 6
Late Opera House, London	55 : 0	44 : 0
Present Opera House, London	83 : 0	55 : 0
Drury Lane, London	67 : 0	0 : 0
New Theatre, St. Petersburg	66 : 0	46 : 0

Heights and widths of some of the naves of the Gothic cathedrals which have stone roofs.—The first column denotes the widths between pillars of the nave; the second, the heights between the floor and the vertex of the vaulting.

Lincoln Cathedral ...	39 : 0	82 : 0
Ely Cathedral	34 : 0	73 : 0
Salisbury Cathedral	34 : 6	84 : 0
Westminster Abbey	33 : 0	103 : 4
Trinity Church, Ely	43 : 0	56 : 1
King's College Chapel	39 : 3	80 : 6

Mr. W. thinks that this was the great secret of the free masons: we can only say, that we wish, then, the brotherhood had preserved it.

Mr. W. proceeds to consider the doctrine of sounds as applicable to theatres; and he distinguishes between the intention of an Opera House, in which

* The manager of this theatre relies on St. Anthony to protect it from fire: a black statue of whom he keeps behind the scenes for that purpose. Horace might have relied with reason on Faunus.

sound alone is thought of, and that of a Theatre which should also combine sense. We wish he had extended his researches for the benefit of other edifices intended for public speaking. He also favours us with a plan and section of a theatre; but we think that he has not sufficiently reflected on the necessity that every spectator should command a full sight of the stage, without getting a creek in his neck. The form Mr. W. has adopted is very injurious to the side boxes.

Sounds not sense, are the requisite objects in an opera house. Here the music is the principal, the drama subordinate; the latter is the vehicle, by which the former is introduced.

The desiderata in the construction of a theatre appear to be of a character directly the reverse. Here the materials, of which the building should be constructed, ought to be of the description best adapted to propagate a sound, so that the idea, of which it is a type, may be communicated to the mind; and it is of little importance, whether the sound itself be soft and pleasing to the sense, so that what it expresses may be understood.

It is true, that the speaking voices of actors are important in theatres; but merely in this respect, that a man or woman may speak in a tone consistent with the character each may assume, and that there may be nothing uncommon to attract the attention from the sense to the sound.

On the whole, we think there are as many good hiats in this little tract, as might be expected in an article run up in haste: and we recommend it, not only to those who have theatres to construct, but to all who have the charge of erecting edifices in which great numbers of their fellow citizens are expected to assemble.

Poème sur l'Astronomie; avec des Cartes nouvelles et exactes, contenant le Nombre des Etoiles qui composent chaque Constellation, leur Ascension droite et leur Déclinaison. D'après les Astronomes les plus célèbres du Siècle. Par P. Villemer, Maître de l'Académie, No. 63, Stanhope-street, Clare-market. 8vo. Pp. 41, Price 2s. 6d. Londres : Dulau et Co. 1808.

Of all desperate undertakings in literature we should have thought the Principles of Astronomy *in verse* the most desperate. The necessary calculations, required by the subject, are so repulsive to

versification, and so ungrateful when forced into measure and jingle, that the attempt seems to us to approach either to ridicule or barbarism. The plates, happily, are the same, either in prose or verse, and by these the explanation may be explained.

The Physician's Vade-Mecum: containing the Symptoms, Causes, Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment of Diseases. Accompanied by a select Collection of Formulæ, and a Glossary of Terms. By Robert Hooper, M. D. Sm. 8vo. pp. 270. Price 6s. London, John Murray, 1809.

THE following concise account of the several diseases that fall under the province of the Physician has been committed to the press, with the hope of its proving useful to students, and those practitioners in medicine who, from their professional occupations, or other circumstances, may not have it in their power to consult the more voluminous works that have contributed so much to the improvement of medicine.

It has been the author's object to compress, within a smaller compass than has hitherto been done, consistently with utility, every thing which more especially deserves attention with a view to the treatment of diseases. In pursuing this, he has discarded all theory, and retained only those leading facts which it is absolutely necessary for a practitioner to be acquainted with when he approaches the bedside of his patient. He has arranged under distinct heads,

1. The characteristic symptoms by which diseases are known.
2. The causes from which they most frequently have their origin.
3. The circumstances that more especially point out the difference between diseases which resemble one another.
4. The signs which influence the judgement in forming a prognosis of their event.
5. That mode of treatment, which, in the present improved state of medicine, is deemed most appropriate, and which experience has sanctioned.

Works of this comprehensive nature are of indisputable utility; as they contribute to the establishment of an orderly system of science in the minds of practitioners. They will not, indeed, please every body; as some would incline to arrange a disease under a division different from that in which another places it.

These imperfections, or others similar to them, will constantly attend a science

in which much depends on opinion: and they will be attributed also to every compendium which treats of that science. Nevertheless, we consider the general view which they present as well entitled to attention; and as to particulars we leave individuals to the exercise of their own judgments, or the enjoyment of their own opinions. If the patient be relieved, no matter under what class his disease be arranged in the system of his physician.

The New Whole Duty of Prayer; containing fifty-six Family Prayers, suitable for Morning and Evening for every Day in the Week, and a Variety of other Devotions and Thanksgivings for particular Persons, Circumstances, and Occasions. 12mo. Pp. 400, Price 4s. 6d. London: Scatcherd and Letterman; 1809.

FORMS of Prayer may be useful or otherwise, as they are applied. They have this disadvantage, that when they are too particular and solicit *certain* things, which may be very proper and necessary at one time, they continue to solicit the same things, though circumstances may have rendered them improper and unnecessary. For this reason, they should comprise *general* petitions only; and this has been well understood by the composers of our public prayers: there is in them a *simplicity* and sobriety highly estimable. We believe that direct addresses to the Deity, intercessions, and fervent prayers, are best expressed in the most modest language; and that as little mixture of indirect ideas as possible is to be preferred. In short, a sense of great wants is the best "Guide to Prayer." We do not object to this, or other collections of the kind, for the use of those to whom they may be suitable: but, we think, the author often puts cause for effect, and prays for the result of grace, when he should pray for the principle. As critics, also, we object to the form of the verb, used by the writer, frequently: "*May we be—May we do.*"—Yet this is better than some incautious expressions which occasionally escape very pious lips: "*We beseech thee to grant that we may be—that we may do.*" &c. Perhaps we are somewhat prejudiced, in favour of our old writers, by reason of the solemnity which time has attached to their language.

A History of France, from the Commencement of the Reign of Clovis, in 481, to the Peace of Campo Formio, in October, 1797: after the manner of the History of England, in a Series of Letters from a Nobleman to his Son. pp. 444, Price 5s. 6. Darton and Harvey, London, 1809.

THE History of France forms a kind of counterpart to the History of England; and is in some degree necessary to be understood by those who wish properly to estimate the events that have taken place in their own country. It is, certainly, very difficult for a Frenchman to write the history of his nation, without evincing that partiality which to the soberminded, is little short of disgusting; and it is, perhaps, no less difficult for a British writer to avoid imparting to facts a colouring favourable to his *island* prejudices. English writers naturally read more of their compatriot authors and historians, than of any other: and they are most familiar with statements which proceed on British principles. This writer intermingles many more English ideas and English events in his History of France than a Frenchman would have done; and the latter part of it is extracted almost wholly from English authorities. The work, however, is useful. Henault is the author chiefly followed; though some other French historians have been consulted.

Those who have traced the influence of the politics of cabinets on the welfare of States, are apt to wish that these were more commonly considered as the *roots* of historical events. Whether the period is arrived when the secrets of courts may be revealed in what concerns the revolution in France, is doubtful; but if it were, we should not be justified in expecting much advantage to be taken of it, in a work which professes to contain only the more obvious historical facts; and to draw only those inferences, which are naturally deduced from facts of this description. As a specimen of the writer's mode of thinking we extract his reflections on the character of the reign of Louis XV. given at the close of that reign.

Few reigns have proved more fertile of events, or productive of more important consequences to mankind.

A general spirit of irreligion and disregard for establishments, spread amongst the people; while the writings of Voltaire, d'Alembert, Diderot, Rousseau, and others, excited superficial thinking, and directed the public hopes to wish for extensive changes in both the church and the state.

At the same time, the conduct of the court tended to encourage, instead of to suppress, this dangerous temper. By disregarding her guarantee of the Pragmatic Sanction, and by wantonly invading Corsica, the French monarch proclaimed his contempt of the national faith. By inspecting the monasteries, and banishing the Jesuits, innovation in the church was introduced and invited. The schemes of Law, the measures of Silhouette, and other financial projects, destroyed all confidence in the national credit. The load of taxes oppressed and harassed the people. The seven years' war relaxed the discipline of the troops; and the naval defeats of both the wars carried on by this prince, destroyed the spirit of marine enterprise. The formation of societies, under pretence of promoting the arts and agriculture, helped to embody and cherish the public discontents: while, to crown all, the attempts of the different parliaments to correspond and combine under the name of classes, and the subsequent new modelling of those judicial assemblies, broke the bands of public affection, destroyed the magic influence of long-revered institutions, and arrayed the throne and the nation against each other; destitute of confidence, and irritated by various acts of hostility, without any mediator or third power, to balance their pretensions, and accommodate their disputes.

While this was the general character of this unsettled and restless reign, some measures were adopted, and some laws passed, which merit praise. Amongst these were the formation of a national militia; the law of mortmain; a poor law; the corn laws; and the establishment of military, surgical, and veterinary schools.

The consequence of this character was the Revolution under Louis XVI. and the most conspicuous proofs of it, were the causes that led to the issuing of assignats: their effects are certainly still felt in France; their immediate evils our author thus describes.

The inducement of the court to call the meeting of the States-general in 1789, was the embarrassed state of the finances, and the events of the revolution increased the public expences, while on the other hand

many taxes were abolished, and those which were continued were ill-paid at the best, and often wholly withheld. It became therefore necessary to discover some means for supplying the wants of the state; and, whether the expedient of an enormous paper-currency was the suggestion of wisdom, or the offspring of chance, it enabled the revolutionary government to call forth into action all the resources of the state.

Indifferent to the destruction of commerce, and the annihilation of manufacturing industry, the destroyers of the old government readily adopted a measure which so completely served their views of avarice and ambition. The property of the church and of the emigrants put an immense fund of fixed property into the hands of the revolutionary rulers; and the emission of assignats enabled them to put it into circulation: and when the impulse was given, it was not difficult to continue the system, even after the national fund, on security of which the assignats were issued, was exhausted. According to the prophetic description of Sir James Stewart, France was divided into but two classes; soldiers, and those who supplied them. By the law of Maximum, private property was annihilated: men and goods were equally at the command of the government. The stock of farms was taken, and the farmer was at once compelled to sell at a fixed price in assignats, and to continue the cultivation of his land. By these means taxes became unnecessary, as the depreciated price of assignats formed the general tax, to which all proprietors were indiscriminately subjected: and when we observe that an emission of eleven thousand millions of paper in assignats was made, and that the depreciation was as about ten thousand to one, it follows, that, in about six years, France had been taxed to the amount of nearly two thousand millions, or about eighty-three millions sterling a year, independent of the sale of national property and compulsory labour. But to what value these amounted, it is impossible to form an estimate, nor yet of the immense sums the French armies levied on conquered countries; but it seems probable that the expences of the revolutionary government greatly exceeded those of all the governments of Europe put together. M. Necker, indeed, estimates the expences of the French rulers, during this period, at thirteen hundred millions a year. Though this enormous quantity of paper embarrassed the government, the warlike resources of France were not perceptibly diminished: the land remained, its cultivation went on; and the conscription filled the ranks of the army. The novelty of this new order of things deceived mere financiers; but statesmen and political economists were apprised of its nature and dreaded its effects.

The people, however, were not the less miserable because the government was strong and the armies victorious, and the general discontent was directed against the assignats, by which their rulers had been able to plunder them of their wealth. To appease this clamour, and give a show of popularity to the new constitution, the plate whence the assignats were printed was broken, (19th February) but a new emission of paper followed, under the name of mandats.

Our author concludes his picture of revolutionized France, (and his volume) by these observations.

If, then, success and aggrandisement are alone to form the objects of government, and claim the need of glory, never was France so elevated; but when the means of these wondrous changes are enquired into, the gorgeous picture shows the vanity of worthless ambition. A discontented and impoverished people, with a government, hated for its cruelty, despised for its meanness, and disgraced by bad faith, checks the folly of premature admiration, and excites emotions of disgust. The history of no nation, nor of any period, can show such an accumulation of crimes; and, while the mind is lost in the immensity of their number, it is bewildered in the diversity of their character. Adieu.

The origin and rise of the present ruler of France is not explicitly stated in this volume. Buonaparte is mentioned only incidentally; and as the volume closes before his *most* illustrious exploits and assumptions had occurred, the author has contrived to avoid marking his character. This will be thought by many a defect, in a work published in 1809. It might be thought unreasonable to expect that his full character should be drawn already, since we know not what further it may disclose: but this need not restrain the observation, how severely the falsehood and wickedness of Louis the Fifteenth's conduct towards Corsica has been avenged on his successors by the present Gallo-Corsican despot.

The propriety of instructing the rising generation in the opening of those events of which it may be their lot to witness the further progress and conclusion, is evident; and the lessons which they may derive from the perusal of history, should be such as may enable them to form a modest and correct judgement on passing events; free from rancour and animosity, yet decided, manly, and patriotic.

The Elements of Astronomy, according to the Newtonian Principles, illustrated by several New and Interesting Diagrams, and adapted, as far as the Science will admit, to the Plainest Capacities. Intended solely for the Instruction of Young Ladies and Gentlemen. By George Reynolds. 8vo. pp. 143. Price 4s. 6d. Sherwood, Neeley, and Jones, London, 1809.

ASTRONOMY is a science which cannot be too frequently passed in review, nor treated in too familiar a style, for the use of younger readers. The leading principles of it are the same now as ever they were, yet there are from time to time, new discoveries made, or improvements on old discoveries, which it is desirable should be rendered familiar to the public. The latest work, therefore, with due diligence, may be the most interesting. So far as we perceive, the tract under inspection is founded on the principles commonly accepted as the most satisfactory. But, we find in it, no mention of those lesser planets, or asteroids, which recent observation has ascertained: and which are of consequence in this science, because their courses are not coincident with those of the planets. Their elements have been calculated by observers on the Continent as well as at home. Perhaps, also, an easier style of language would have been worth studying: and if the diagrams had been kept more distinct, so that those drawn on different scales had not appeared on the same plate, we should have been better pleased with this performance.

An Account of the European Settlements in America. Published as, The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke. Vol. V. Qto. Price £1. 1s. J. J. Stockdale, London, 1808.

WE merely mention this volume, for the satisfaction of those who think proper to add it to their copies of Mr. Burke's Works, as published by his editor in 4 vols. An advertisement prefixed, affirms that Edmund Burke was certainly the real author of it: and the writer says, that "he saw the receipt for the copy money in Mr. Burke's hand writing." The consideration was fifty guineas.

It may sometimes be worth while to look back and see what were the opinions and judgements, formed by men of talents at certain periods of time, and to compare them with the events: and in this view the sentiments of Mr. Burke, if he were the writer of this volume may deserve attention.

Variety; or, Selections and Essays, consisting of Anecdotes, Curious Facts, Interesting Narratives, with occasional Reflections. By Priscilla Wakefield. Sm. 8vo. pp. 243. Price 4s. Darton and Harvey, London, 1809.

THIS title explains itself. In the course of general reading many curious articles will strike the observant eye: these collected will form a pleasing volume. The merit of such compilations depends on the talent of the compiler; anecdotes strike some as interesting which appear to others frivolous.

Our authoress mingles her own remarks with the stories she introduces; and often succeeds in producing a pleasing impression on the mind. We give a short specimen of the work.

When M. Barthelémy was sent, with several others, into banishment to Cayenne, his servant, Le Tellier, came running up, as he was getting into the carriage, with an order from the Directory, permitting him to accompany his master. He delivered it to Augereau, who, having read it, said: "You are determined, then, to share the fate of these men, who are lost for ever. Whatever events await them, be assured they will never return." "My mind is made up," answered Le Tellier; "I shall be but too happy to share the misfortunes of my master." "Well, then," replied Augereau, "go, fanatic, and perish with him:" at the same time adding: "soldiers, let this man be watched as closely as these miscreants."

Le Tellier threw himself on his knees before his master, who felt exquisite pleasure at this awful moment, to press so affectionate a friend to his bosom. This worthy fellow continued to show the same courage and attachment during the voyage, and after they arrived at Cayenne; and was treated as an equal and companion, not by his master only, but by the companions of his exile.

Domestic enjoyment is often blasted by an intermixture of foibles with virtues of a superior kind. The want of a certain polish of manner, towards near relations and those

with whom we live on a very familiar footing, is apt to destroy the value of essential good qualities. A wife may drudge all day, in taking care of the main chance; may superintend the affairs of her family with unwearied zeal, and relinquish every indulgence for its welfare; whilst she deprives herself of the love and esteem of those who depend upon her, by ill-humour and petulance. Brothers and sisters have generally a tender affection for each other, which they evince upon extraordinary occasions; but how often do they corrode the mutual enjoyment of the domestic circle, by inattention to the mild graces of gentleness, and an endeavour to please. The same fatal mistake occurs frequently amongst other near connexions. The restraint that is felt in the company of strangers, banishes, for a time, that rudeness that interrupts the peace of families; and which, like our best clothes, is too apt to be worn only occasionally.

The importance of cultivating true gentleness, as a habit, must be acknowledged by every one who has suffered from the neglect of it. And who is there that has not been stung by the contempt of the proud, the sarcasms of the ill-natured, the sallies of the petulant, and the inconsideration of the selfish?

An anecdote is related, upon the best authority, that reflects high credit upon the national character of our English soldiers. During the late attack on Copenhagen, a party of our countrymen had taken possession of the villa of a gentleman of condition, about five miles from the city. The owner was obliged to fly with so much precipitation, that he left the plate on the table where he was dining. The love of life superseded all other considerations: he abandoned his possessions, and gave them up for lost; but when the attack was over, private property was restored, and, in confidence of that permission, this gentleman returned to his house, and finding it guarded with soldiers, demanded an entrance, declaring that he was the rightful owner of the house, and every thing belonging to it.

The sentinel replied, that he had no authority to admit him or any other person; that his orders were to keep a vigilant guard upon the property; and that, unless he brought the permission in form from his commanding officer, he should resolutely oppose his entering the gate. The gentleman persisted in asserting his right, till the sentinel threatened to shoot him on the spot if he did not retire.

Thus repulsed, he had no resource but to go to Copenhagen in search of the colonel, when, having procured a formal order from him, he returned, expecting to find his house

plundered of all such valuables as were portable. The sentinel, on seeing the note, instantly admitted him, when, to his astonishment, he found every thing exactly as he had left it—not a spoon or salver was missing. He admired the honesty and discipline of the English troops, though enemies; and acknowledged the propriety of the sentinel's conduct, which at first had so greatly offended him.

Nothing can be more absurd, than a contest for superiority where no rivalry subsists. A man, perfect in the qualities of body and mind, could his sex be exchanged, would make an odious woman; whilst the exquisite feeling, delicacy, gentleness, and forbearance of female excellence, would not only render a man ridiculous, but unfit him for the duties of citizen, husband, and father.

Sensibility is a most striking trait in the characters of women, and peculiarly adapted to enable them to fulfil the whole circle of tender offices that domestic connexions require. The rearing of children from the cradle to maturity; the attendance of the sick; the soothing the cares of a husband, and rendering his fire-side cheerful—cannot be effectually performed without this enchanting quality, which throws a charm upon the most trifling actions, and cements that friendship between husband and wife, that can only be enjoyed where each is more desirous of expressing their own wish of pleasing their companion, than of exacting to themselves the same attention.

The Duke de Rochefoucault, in his exile, speaks most feelingly of the delights of female friendship. I quote his remarks. "He who has never experienced the friendship of a woman, knows not half the charms and delights of friendship. Men, undoubtedly, are capable of making great sacrifices; but, while a woman is capable of the same attachment and sacrifices—while a female friend will cheerfully meet the same dangers as men—she possesses, besides, the art of embellishing and brightening the saddest moments of our life, by unutterable sweetness of temper, constant care, and unwearied attendance on her friend. She can sympathize in his sufferings, mingle with his pleasures, and comprehend and divine all his projects. She can pour balm on his wounded sensibility, raise his dejected spirits, unburden him of the load of sorrow, and thus reconcile him to himself. Well can she soften the harshness of advice, which she has the courage to offer at a seasonable interval; and can inspire a boundless confidence, without creating pain or causing exertion. She bids defiance to obstacles; is discouraged by no accidents, not even by absence itself. In short, female friendship is a divine feeling, and the sweetest charm and comforter of life."

LITERARY REGISTER.

Authors, Editors, and Publishers are particularly requested to forward to the Literary Panorama Office, post-paid, the titles, prices, and other particulars of works in hand, or published, for insertion in this department of the work.

WORKS ANNOUNCED FOR PUBLICATION.

Antiquities.

Mr. James Johnson, of Lancaster, is preparing for publication, in a quarto volume, the History and Antiquities of the Hundred of Lonsdale, including the stations of Lancaster and Overborough.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

Mr. Marshall will shortly publish a Review of the Reports to the Board of Agriculture from the Western Department of England.

The Gardener's Calendar, or Monthly Directory of Operations in every Branch of Horticulture, by Walter Nicoll, author of the Villa Garden Directory, The Forcing Nicoll, or Kitchen Gardener, The Practical Planter, &c. will soon be published in 8vo. The Calendar will be preceded by a dissertation on the situations proper for gardens and orchards; on soils, and how to improve them; on manures, and their application; and on the rotation of crops. It will exhibit the newest and most improved methods of cultivating all kinds of culinary vegetables, fruits, shrubs, and flowers; the management of hothouses of every description, hot walls, flued pits, and hotbeds, the greenhouse, and the conservatory, so as to form a complete assistant to the operative gardener, and to the scientific horticulturist.

In the press, Pursuits of Agriculture. A satirical poem with notes. Canto III. Price 2s. 6d.

A Report of the Agriculture of Siberia. By Mr. Macfarlane, 1 vol. 8vo. with plates, will soon appear.

Classical Literature.

The Rev. Edward Berwick has nearly ready for publication, an entire Translation of the Life of Apollonius of Tyanea, of the Greek of Philostratus.

A new edition of Ernesti's Cicero is printing at Oxford. The Clavis to be sold separately if wanted.

Education.

An Italian work, with a French translation, for the purpose of facilitating the acquisition of those languages, is in the press. It is entitled "Il Modo di Piacere in Compagnia," and consists of conversations on a variety of subjects, expressly written for the instruction of youth of both sexes in the art of pleasing in company, on their introduction into the world.

Dr. Carey has in the press a sequel to his English Prose and Verse, entitled Poetic Reading made easy, containing a selection of poetry for schools, with directions for the proper utterance of each line.

Genealogy.

In the press, The Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, from the origin of that illustrious house to the year 1630, with the history of the northern parts of Scotland during that period, by Sir Robert Gordon, of Gordonstoun, bart. continued to the year 1691, by Gilbert Gordon, of Sallagh. Published from the original manuscript in the possession of the Marchioness of Stafford. Handsomely printed in folio. This is said to be not only an accurate genealogical history of the ancient house of Sutherland, but also a minute detail of the principal transactions which occurred during a period of near 600 years, particularly in the counties of Sutherland and Caithness, and the Highlands of Scotland in general. The history of these parts, it is presumed, will receive more elucidation from this work than from any which the public is at present possessed of. The whole has been carefully transcribed, by the kind permission of the Marchioness of Stafford, from the original manuscript preserved at Dunrobin Castle. An appendix will be added, containing an inventory of writs of the Baridom, and the work will be illustrated by several engravings.

Miscellaneous.

The Works of Gavin Douglas, bishop of Dunkeld, with historical and critical dissertations on his life and writings, notes, and a glossary, by the Rt. Hon. Sylvester (Douglas) Lord Glenbervie, will soon appear in 4 vols. 8vo. The whole works of Gavin Douglas, consisting of his translation of Virgil's *Æneid*, the Palace of Honour, and King Hart, are now for the first time collected into one edition. Two dissertations, the one on the family of Douglas, the other on the poet's life and writings, will be prefixed, and copious notes added, the text of Ruddiman's edition of the *Æneid* has been collated with the following

five manuscripts, viz. two in the library of the University of Edinburgh, one in that of the Faculty of Advocates, a fourth in the possession of the Marquis of Bath at Longleat, and the fifth at Lambeth Palace. The excellent glossary of Ruddiman is made the basis of that in the present work, but considerably enlarged and extended to the other poems.

Mr. Faulkner, of Chelsea, is preparing for the press a historical, topographical, and statistical description of Chelsea and its environs, which will be dedicated, by permission, to the Bishop of Winchester.

The seventh edition of Mr. Kett's Elements of useful Knowledge, will appear next month.

Navigation.

A new edition, with improvements, of tables for Navigation and Nautical Astronomy, by Joseph de Mendoza Rios, Esq. will shortly be published.

Novels and Romances.

Mr. William Lindley has a novel in the press, entitled Ralph Keybridge.

Miss Jane Porter, author of Thaddeus of Warsaw, has a romance in the press under the title of The Scottish Chieftain.

A new Romance from the pen of Mrs. Norris, author of Julia of England, will shortly be published; it is entitled Euphonia.

The author of The Young Mother, or Albinia, has in the press Rosa in London, and other Tales, in four volumes.

Retribution, or The Sicilian Vespers, a Romance of the Thirteenth Century, not inapplicable to the Nineteenth, will soon be published in 3 vols. 12mo.

Sacred Literature.

The Rev. H. H. Baber, of the British Museum, will soon publish in a quarto volume, an edition of Wickliffe's Version of the New Testament; with a Life of that celebrated Reformer, and an Essay on the Anglo-Saxon and English Translations of the Scriptures previous to the Fifteenth Century.

The Rev. James Parsons has undertaken to publish the remaining Collections of the Septuagint, prepared by the late Dr. Holmes.

Topography.

Mr. Robert Clutterbuck of Walford, is engaged in collecting and arranging materials for a History of Hertfordshire, taking Chancery for his guide.

The Second Volume of Manning's History of Surrey, is expected to appear in the course of next month.

MONTHLY LIST OF WORKS PUBLISHED.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

The Art of Improving the Breeds of Domestic Animals, in a letter addressed to Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. By Sir John Saunders Sebright, M.P. Price 2s. 6d.

Commerce.

Tables of Interest, accurately cast at 5 per Cent. from 1 to 30000. from 1 to 98 days, and 1 month to 12. Tables of Commission, from 1-8th to 5 per Cent. on 1 to 30000.—Tables for the Payment of any given Sum of Money, per Year, Month, Week, or Day, &c. By Thomas Mitchell, a London Accountant. 12mo. 3s.

Fine Arts.

A Print, representing the principal Front of the New Theatre, Covent Garden, engraved by William Daniell, A.R.A. who has been favoured with correct measurements and other authentic materials, expressly for that purpose. The size of the Print is 23 inches by 15 inches, and coloured. Price 11. 1s.

Geography.

The Island of Walcheren, on a Scale of an Inch and a Half to an English Mile, from an original survey. With a General Map of the Province of Zealand, shewing the course of the Scheldt to Antwerp. Printed on one large sheet of Atlas paper. Price 3s. coloured, or on cloth to fold in a case, 7s. 6d.

Geology.

New Theory of the Formation of Veins; with its Application to the Art of Working Mines. By Abraham Gottlob Werner, Counsellor of the Mines of Saxony, Professor of Mineralogy and of the Art of Working Mines at Freyberg, &c. Translated from the German. To which is added an Appendix, containing Notes illustrative of the Subject, by Charles Anderson, M.D. Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Member of the Chirurgical Society, of the Wernerian Natural History Society, &c. 8vo. 9s.

History.

An Abridgement of Universal History, adapted to the Use of Families and Schools, being divided into Portion

calculated for each Day's Learning, to which are annexed appropriate Questions for the Instructor. By the Rev. H. J. Knapp, 18mo, 5s. 6d. boards.

Mathematics.

Levbour's Mathematical Repository, No. IX. which completes the Second Volume, containing Solutions to Thirty New Questions, and other Disquisitions in various Branches of the Mathematics, 8s. 6d.

Medicine and Surgery.

Observations on Fungus Hematoides, or Soft Cancer, in several of the most important Organs of the Human Body; containing also a comparative View of the structure of Fungus Hematoides and Cancer, with Cases and Dissections. By James Wardrop, F.R.S.E. Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and one of the Surgeons of the Public Dispensary of Edinburgh; 8vo. 12s. boards. A few copies are printed on royal paper, with the plates coloured. Price 1l. 1s. boards.

Pharmacopœia Collegii Regalis Medicorum Londinensis, MDCCCLIX. 4to. 1l. 4s.

The Pharmacopœia of the Royal College of Physicians of London, 1809; translated into English with Notes, &c. by Richard Powell, Fellow of the College, and Physician to St. Bartholomew and the Magdalen Hospitals, 8vo. 10s. 6d. boards. Also on pasteboard, Two Tables, exhibiting at one View, the Relations of the last and present Pharmacopœia, price 5s. 5d.

Poetry.

Brighton, a Poem; descriptive of the Place and Parts adjacent; and other Poems. By Mary Lloyd, embellished with engravings, 18mo. 7s.

PROPOSITA PHILANTHROPICA.

—*Homo sum* :

Humani nihil a me alienum puto.

ANIMALS' FRIEND.

"Where tender feelings are wanting, genuine Christianity will never be found. Cruelty to dumb animals, in spite of all those high pretensions to civilisation we boast, is, it is to be feared, one of the crying sins of this nation. Cruelty to dumb animals betrays an unfeeling heart and a depraved mind, and should never pass without punishment. When the Creator subjected the beasts of the field to man's use, he never intended to render them the objects of man's cruelty!"

Archdeacon Darbhenny's Sermon on Cruelty to Animals.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

Sir,—When I addressed you some time ago* on the subject of the ANIMALS' FRIEND SOCIETY, I ventured to anticipate the propriety of commencing that institution immediately, as the most appropriate prelude to Lord Erskine's humane bill, not only as evincing the public feeling on a subject of such importance, but also as a practical illustration of the advantage and necessity of the measure, and as collecting daily proofs of the atrocious offences, which demand so imperiously the restraining hand of exemplary justice. The event of that noble lord's merciful bill, has abundantly evinced the advantages that might have been derived from having begun the society, and the facility which in every instance I have experienced from the magistrates†, in

* In a letter announcing the notice of Lord Erskine's bill, Panorama, Vol. V. p. 1150.

† Acknowledgements are due to all those magistrates who have so readily lent their aid in punishing cruelty to animals, but especially to Alderman Newnham, who was not only

their zealous co-operation to punish cruelty, leaves no room to doubt of the success which would have attended its establishment and promotion for the furtherance of its views.

I would, therefore, now most zealously call upon those friends of humanity who signified their intention to join the general cause, and were willing to aid in the formation of the ANIMALS' FRIEND SOCIETY, whenever it was begun. We have waited sufficiently long, without gaining any advantage from the delay, and at the certain loss of what might have been done in the meantime; and I am the more anxious for this beginning to be made now, because in a company, not many days since, I heard it asserted, with general satisfaction, that the ANIMALS' FRIEND was begun. Surely, then, there can want no encouragement in the public mind, and surely none in the minds of philanthropic individuals who have already volunteered their services for this highly exalted purpose. Never should it be said with impunity, that the English nation is wanting in its grand characteristic mark of humanity, when such an opportunity is afforded them to exemplify it so fully; unless we prefer to fix the stigma of Rousseau, who says, "the ENGLISH BARBARITY is well known!" and ironically adds, that "no person calls us humane, but—ourselves!"* I cannot better enforce the necessity for an immediate formation of this society, than by stating, in conclusion, a case of cruelty which has recently occurred, and being one of those which, upon the only ground of plausible pretence, was urged against the necessity for the bill, as what "could not even be supposed to happen"† (though it occurs every day), and

pleased to express himself obliged by the opportunity to punish the crime, but wished to join the society whenever it was begun.

* Emilius, vol. i, p. 286, and note.

† One of the members said: "it was impossible to know the extent of a man's benevolence." Of some men, this surely cannot be doubted. "That it must depend on feelings; and that if individuals were left to themselves, there was reason to suppose they would be as humane as if a law was passed to compel them to be so." One would think only a blind man could say this, and that indeed he must be deaf and dumb also, not to know better from some other source. But we may ask, why are laws necessary to compel persons to be honest, but because they are not so without? And are they more humane? "The effect of the bill would be endless prosecutions." So it was intended, against all such as deserved it. "It was beneath the dignity of Parliament to legislate on such subjects." A statesman should know, that other parliaments and kingdoms both thought

which "had a remedy already afforded by the laws;" although the want of such law was the only reason why the bill was proposed, will most amply prove the wisdom and humanity of the objection!

Not more than three weeks ago, the attention of the passengers in Thames-street was

and acted otherwise. Is it beneath a parliament to do its duty—to imitate the paramount authority of God? who does legislate for animals, and commands us to do so, placing much of our duty in this obedience.—"Besides, if men did treat animals in a cruel manner, there were remedies already afforded by the laws."—Where? which of them are sufficient? Was not their insufficiency the very cause of the present bill?—"It was not to be supposed that the owner of any beast, who had an interest in its preservation, would inflict any heavy injury on such animal."—This, one would think, could only be asserted by some man unfortunately deprived of his faculties, especially those of sight, speech, and hearing; for his eyes must behold it every day, and every hour of the day. His speech, if "the individual" had "any feeling," would let his "natural humanity" ask, why such things were? or his hearing would be informed by some other humane individual, that all these things disgraced our country (emphatically called the *hell of horses*), because there were no adequate laws to punish such demons;—"and if servants injured them (animals), the masters had a remedy against the servants." What! whether they know it or not? This is excellent logic! Who does not know the villainies of cruel, malicious, or drunken servants to their masters' cattle? The objection is too foolish to be answered; it is self-refuted! See *The News*, for June 18, 1809. "Cruelty to Animals." But to all such very humane objections, "the extent of whose benevolence" it does not, indeed, "seem possible to know," as Mr. Windham truly says, Lord Erskine has given this very admirable, cutting, and unanswerable reply, on the tendency of cruelty to animals:—"As to the tendency of barbarous sports of any kind or description whatever, to nourish the national characteristics of manliness and courage, the only shadow of argument I ever heard upon such occasions, all I can say is this: that from the mercenary battles of the lowest of beasts (viz. human boxers), up to those of the highest and noblest that are tormented by man, for his degrading pastime, I enter this public protest against it. I never knew a man remarkable for heroic bravery, whose very aspect was not lighted up by gentleness and humanity; nor a kill-him-and-eat-him countenance, that did not cover the heart of a bully and a poltron!"—See Lord Erskine's Speech, p. 11, published by Phillips.

arrested by the cruelty of a man endeavouring to force two poor, lean, emaciated horses, in a cart (on which was written, *Samuel Quinton, White's Grounds*, to draw a very heavy load up St. Mary's Hill. The poor animals laboured in vain, exerted all the little strength of their weakness, fell, arose, and tried again, endured the punishment of their brutal young driver, repeated their falls, useless efforts, and endurance, &c. to no purpose. The surrounding passengers interceded, and implored for pity on the sufferers; and were answered, as usual, with (punishable) imprecations on them and the cattle. The surrounding carmen of Thames-street joined in these intreaties, declaring that such horses were unable to draw up the load, which was stated to be (as the driver acknowledged) above 14 hundred weight! They offered to lend him their horses; told him he deserved to be put in their places, and to be treated as he was treating them; all this was of no avail; and when the person who saw this, unable to witness such unpunished atrocity, was leaving the spot, they inquired whether such a barbarian could not be punished, as he deserved? The carmen—the Thames-street carmen themselves—replied, d—n—g it, the more was the pity he could not be punished, for they belonged to him. Was he then the master's son?—believe it who can!!—This, therefore, Mr. Editor, is one of those cases which the objecting M. P. thought "could not happen"—a man to ill use his own cattle; or, if it did, that the law provided a remedy for others doing so. Both these cases are here combined; and what remedy is there? What remedy does it not require? Do not such hellish deeds, as they truly are, call for the most prompt and exemplary one? What must we think of such a young man? Is he not an hopeful member of society!!—a fit companion for the M. P. alluded to? Would they not be a fit pair to take the place of the suffering animals. Who would regret to see them there?—who would refuse to drive them?—What must we think of a father who permits his son to act thus? Ought not such men to be excluded, by general consent, from the common concerns of men, as they exclude the common feelings of humanity? What English merchant, with the feelings of his native country, would willingly encourage such men, by employing them, when others can be had? If such principles are to be encouraged, as they are by want of punishment, at what atrocity will they stop? For these things, indeed, we may well say the land mourns, and cries for vengeance, for, as it is stated by an author, alike remarkable for his elegance and humanity, "If the exjoining to man humanity towards animals be a part of the merciful and benevolent dispensation of Providence, on the fulfilling of that injunction

depends a part of the righteousness which is imputed to man for the exercise of that Christian virtue, mercy; and without fulfilling it, our mercifulness will be found wanting, and our charity be left imperfect.*—As a contrast to the above case (where the expression of the countenance by no means gives the lie to Lavater's theory), I will mention the conduct of a gentleman, whom I know, towards his horses. He had used a pair of them in his carriage for some years: when advanced in age, he had them kept in the stable, with a man employed on purpose to take care of them; they had no other employment than to eat, drink, sleep, and be exercised in fine weather, to keep them in health. A noble friend of this humane master offered him the use of his park for his infirm servants: the gentleman thanked him, but replied, no; "they never have yet been exposed to the weather, and they shall not now they are old; they have always had a good stable, and now they shall have their own as long as they live." These animals thus lived happy pensioners on their master's bounty many years! They died regretted by him, and he always rejoices in the recollection of having thus compensated their services, and performed his duty, by following the natural dictates of his heart † Shall we not rejoice in the retrospect of every act of mercy, when that day approaches, in which every act of mercy will be remembered! when even the crumbs that would have fallen from our table, having been given to the birds of the air, will plead for us, with him who is the Father of Mercies, and whose Son, our merciful Saviour, has enjoined us to shew mercy to others (in every part of his creation), as we desire, and shall need it ourselves!

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

New Kent-road,

P.

Aug. 1809.

* We beg leave to add to the instances of humanity adduced by our benevolent correspondent, that we know several masters of stage-coaches, particularly on the Essex road, who, when their stage horses are past labour, let them run in the pastures, or frequent the stables, as they had been used to do when in service: they come regularly to see the others set out on their journey, and when they are off, they return to their straw yards. We remember some such instances living for years in that condition, and others after having received incurable horis. If any doubt this humanity, let them enquire of CRACKLIN of Brentwood.

* An Essay on Humanity to Animals, by Thomas Young, A. M., abridged by permission of the author, Arch and Hatchard, p. 9.

† The same practice was followed by the late excellent Jonas Hanway, Esq.

DIDASCALIA.

ON THE OPERA, ITALIAN AND ENGLISH.—
THE STAGE, AND STAGE-PLAYERS.—
LYCEUM, AND COVENT-GARDEN.

Safe and Sound, an Opera, in three Acts
Performed at the Lyceum Theatre, London; written by Theodore Edward Hook, Esq. pp. 70. Price 2s. 6d. Tipper, London, 1809.

"There is in general in the Italian Opera an insipidity, mixed with a buffoonery too low to be called farcical, which would make the representation insupportable in England, were the language understood, or attended to in any other view than as the introduction and display of exquisite music..... From the time the Beggar's Opera appeared, we find pieces in prose, with songs interspersed, so approaching to regular comedy in plot, incident, and preservation of character, as to make them a distinct species from any thing we find abroad; and is it too much to add, that the *wit, sense, and humour* to be found in some of them are *sterling English marks* by which we may claim the species as our own? ... In a representation which is to hold "a mirror up to nature," and which *ought* to draw its chief applause from *reason*, vocal music should be confined to express the feelings of the passions, but never to express the exercise of them. Song, in any action in which reason tells us it would be unnatural to sing, must be preposterous. To fight a duel, to edgel a pottroon in cadence, may be borne in a burletta, upon the same principle that in the serious opera we see heroes fight lions and monsters, and sometimes utter their last struggles for life in song, and die in strict time and tune.... To return to the application of vocal music upon the English theatre: it must not only be restrained from having part in the exercise or action of the passions, care must be also taken that it does not interrupt or delay events for the issue of which the mind is become eager. It should always be the *accessory* and not the *principal* subject of the drama; but at the same time spring out of it in such a manner that the difference can hardly be discerned, and that it should seem neither the one nor the other could be spared."

Such were the sentiments of common sense, expressed by General Burgoyne, about thirty years ago. Ahs! how things are altered! So very depraved is the Stage become, that to criticize a modern English Opera now is as silly an undertaking as to break a butterfly on the wheel; yet we have the vanity to think that our strictures have not been without effect, though not immediately acknowledged by those incorrigible flourishers of the pen

who have written such theatrical insipidities. In proportion to the prostitution of their muse, and the barrenness of their genius, they continue to adulate managers and players; and we should not be surprized to see authors like those who have latterly wrote for the stage, enshrine them as paragons of virtue and modesty to be adored by an admiring age. Who can sit with any degree of self-possession to hear the wretched dialogue, and more wretched poetry, of these parasites to actors, dealt out to us, with the utmost contempt of our understanding, by certain human parrots, who conceive themselves as fully entitled to the applause of mankind as though they were really useful to society, or as propitious to their country's fame as the glorious Nelson!—Such is their consummate vanity! The disgraceful practice of allowing a few of them salaries* equal, in many instances, to the revenue of some of the noblest and best families in the state,—while many a brave worn out veteran, with a limb lost,† and perhaps with a numerous family, is starving upon half-pay—has brought them to such a pitch of egotism, that they seem to forget the relative situation in which they stand to society, and in comparison with useful and worthy members of the public body. Perhaps, too, the peerage glittering with some of their tinsel'd ornaments, (though we know “all that glitters is not gold,”) may have contributed to increase their vanity and egotism.—Be that as it may, it has been the office of the PANORAMA to give a few seasonable hints to these people,

* During the conflicts at Covent Garden Theatre an account has appeared in the newspapers, asserting that Mrs. Siddons receives 30 guineas per night for playing. If this be true (for we cannot verify it, having, thank our stars! no connection with managers) with what reflexions does it not overpower the mind!—*Fifty guineas a night to a Stage Player!* whose abilities, be they ever so great,

No fix'd effect, no model leaves behind
Unvouch'd by proof, to substance unall'd!

.....
All perishable! . . . like th'electric fire,
But strike the frame, and as they strike expire:
Incense too pure a bodied flame to bear,
Its fragrance charms the sense, and blends with air!

† How often have we seen, when on duty as Panoramists, most splendid equipages, bearing actors attired in disgusting pomp, rattle by a gallant captain, a major, a general, or an admiral, (some of whom have been rendered cripples in the service of their country) and spot their honourable livery, THAT OF THE NATION, with the filth and mud jerk'd from their chariot wheels!!!

and their parasites, who abuse the noble name of literature to eulogize—what?—a Stage-Player. Merciful Heaven! as our English-German dramatists would say—Merciful Heaven! oh, ye gods! eulogize stage-players! Let us hear what Rousseau says of these *great* personages, who in the present moment of popular phrenzy occupy so much of the attention of the public.

“What is the talent of the Player? The art of counterfeiting, or of assuming a different character from his own; of appearing a different person from what he is; of being in a passion in cool blood; of saying things contrary to what he believes to be true, as naturally as if he really believed them; and, in short of forgetting his own situation, by continually putting himself in that of others.

“What is the profession of the Player?—*A trade, in which he shews himself for money; submits to the disgrace of affronts, the right of giving which the people purchase with their money; and puts his person up to public sale.* I put it to the breast of every honest man, whether he feels not somewhat at the bottom of his soul, which tells him, that in this traffic of one's self, there is something servile and despicable? For you, who are of another character, ye Philosophers, who pretend that ye are so far above prejudices, would ye not die with shame if, basely disguised like kings, ye were obliged to go and play in the eyes of the public another part than your own, and expose *your majesties* to the hisses of the populace?

“What then are the qualities which the Player acquires by his employment? A mixture of baseness, dissimulation, ridiculous pride, and a littleness, which fits him to represent every kind of personage, except the noblest of all, that of Man, which he forsakes.

“I know that the acting of a Player is not that of a cheat, who endeavours to impose; neither do I accuse him of being altogether a cheat; but of cultivating no trade, but of deceiving men, and of exercising himself in customs that can only be innocent on the stage, and are of no use any where else, but to make him act wrong. Those men that are so well drest, so well versed in the arts of gallantry, and the accents of passion, will they never make use of this art to seduce young people? Will not those pickpocket valets, who are so dextrous with their hands on the theatre, in some exigency, occasioned by following a more expensive than lucrative trade, find their advantage in absence of mind? Will they never seize the purse of a prodigal son, or an avaricious father, instead of that belonging to characters they play with? The temptation of doing wrong always increases with the facility; *Players must be more virtuous than other men, if they are not more corrupt.*

"A Player on the Stage, displaying sentiments different from his own; repeating only what he is bid; often representing only an ideal character, annihilates himself, in one sense, with his hero; and in this forgetfulness of the man, if there remain the least of himself, it only becomes the sport of the spectators. What shall I say of those people who seem to think they possess too much worth, and who degrade themselves so much, as to represent characters which they would be very sorry to resemble? It is a great misfortune, undoubtedly, to see so many villains in the world play the parts of good men; but is there any thing more odious, more shocking, more shameful, than a good man, in a play, acting the part of a villain, and employing all his talents to make those criminal maxims esteemed, at which he himself shudders?

"If, in all these circumstances, we see nothing in the profession of an actor, more than that it is not very creditable, we should likewise view it as a source of bad morals, in the dissoluteness of the Actresses, which involves that of the actors. But why is this dissipation inevitable? Ah, why? In any period but this, we should have no need to ask: but in an age, where prejudices and error reign, with such irresistible sway, under the name of philosophy, men, stupified by their vain knowledge, have shut their understanding against the voice of reason, and their heart against that of nature.

"How can such a profession as that of an actress, whose whole business it is to shew themselves to the public, and what is still worse, to shew themselves for money, be proper for virtuous women, or compatible with modesty and good morals? Is there any occasion even to enter into a dispute concerning the moral distinctions of the sexes, to feel how difficult it must be for her who shews herself for money, in a fictitious character, not very soon to become venal in her own person, and never suffer herself to be tempted to satisfy those desires which she takes so much pains to excite; when, notwithstanding a thousand timid precautions, a virtuous and discreet woman, exposed to little danger, finds it very difficult to preserve her heart, when temptations arise? Can those young, audacious people, without any other education than a system of coquetry, and for ever playing amorous parts, in a very immodest dress, continually surrounded with ardent and rash young men, in the midst of the soft voice of love and pleasure; will they, at their age, resist the feelings of their hearts; the objects which surround them, the conversations that are held to them, opportunities that are for ever occurring, and the gold to which they are beforehand half sold? We must possess the

simplicity of children, to be deceived in this matter.

"A comedian, who possesses modesty, morality, and virtue, is doubly estimable; since it is a proof, that in him the love of virtue subdues his passions, and the influence of his profession. The only fault which can be imputed to him, is the having embraced it; but a wrong step in youth often decides the fate of the remainder of life; and, when we feel ourselves possessed of great talents, who can resist their attraction? Great actors make their own apology: it is the bad ones that we should despise."

So much at present (as we shall recur to this subject again) for actors and actresses. For our poets, and modern playwrights, we have little room left; but that little will happily allow us space to quote from a good old book, an apt sentence, or two, which without any ceremony we dedicate to their edification:

"Poetry should be rather like a coranto, short and nimbly lofty; than a dull lesson, of a day long. Nor can it but be flat, if distended; when it is good, it concentrates the powers of the mind, and seizes on the spirit of things. Foolish poetry is, of all writing, the most ridiculous. When a goose dances, and a fool versifies, there is sport alike. He is twice an ass, who is a rhiming one; and he is something the less unwise, who is unwise in prose!!"

Craving our readers' pardon, as well as Mr. Hook's, for this long delay, proceed we now to the new opera entitled *Safe and Sound*, which is a misnomer; by this light, a misnomer! It is neither *safe* nor *sound*; it is a most rotten piece of literary imbecility. Gently strike it with the wand of criticism, and it crumbles to atoms, and "leaves not a rack behind"—The wit, if any one can so denominate it, is like the music,—stolen; though certainly the latter is pretty, thanks to the original authors; while the former, from having been worn threadbare, is a fiftieth edition of poor Joe Miller—in distress. We treat our readers with a specimen.

Jaumbert.—If I were to die to-morrow, dam' me if I think they could find an undertaker to bury me.

Peter.—I'll be mute as a mackerel.

Peter.—I'll be damn'd if it wasn't a man,

Lindor.—I mean, are you one of the suite—the set of domestics?

Peter.—I am, sir—and a damned sweet set we are too.

*Peter. (aside).—*Now's your time, go and be cursed miserable—you happy dog.

*Jaumbert. —*What are you doing, Miss?

*Jeannetta. —*I—Sir—I—nothing, Sir.

*Jaumbert. —*And what are you doing, Sir?

*Peter. —*Helping her, Sir.

*Jaumbert. —*Hark ye—why do you suffer Peter to be talking to you in *this* way?

*Jeannetta. —*He hasn't been talking in *that* way, Sir, to me.

*Lindor. —*Noble man!

*Peter. —*My master? he is a nobleman indeed: he was made so by his majesty about four years ago.

Now, readers, take three specimens of the poetry; the first is from the beginning of the opera, the second from the third act, and the latter from the finale.

Come ye lads and lasses gay,
Merry, happy, trip away,
Mirth and pleasure ringing round,
To the pipe and tabor's sound.

How weak is expression with truth to disclose,

The heart that with grateful sensations o'erflows,

Twangdillo, twangdillo, *twangdillo*,

No more shall love pining sit under the willow.

As the sailor who shipwreck'd revisits his shore,

Enervated's our joy, by the toils that are o'er,

Twangdillo, twangdillo, *twangdillo*,

No more shall love pining * sit under the willow.

To the tabor's cheering sound,
Merrily beat the echoing ground;
Now in mirth, the hours employ—
Sing of pastime—sing of joy.

How our readers may relish this worse than pulling of ropes at a country fair to produce bell-ringing,—this “twangdillo” and “willow,”—we know not; but it reminds us of the “drowsy tinkling of the distant fold” in a stormy night, or the creaking of an old rusty signpost, vibrating to and fro as impelled by the wind, which, like the author's muse, wants oiling and cleaning.

But let the author speak for himself.

* We are glad to hear that “love shall no longer sit pining under the willow.”—but surely such poetry as this is enough to make any lady or gentleman pine, if either have any love for the muses!

“I have somewhere heard an opera called a “*String to hang Ballads upon*”; the following is but a *flimsy* [very flimsy, indeed!] *thread*—let me hope that some allowance will be made, when it is considered that it was written in less than a week:—to introduce the music from the pen of my dear father, was my object. I sought no reputation from a piece which entirely depended upon him; and the admirable mode in which he has composed it, prevents the possibility of my gaining any:—for whatever applause *Safe and Sound* has met with, to him and the performers I am indebted.

To Mr. Dowton, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Horn, Mr. Penson, Mr. Oxberry, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Wewitzer, I am much obliged for their exertions; and to Mrs. Mountain, as well as Mrs. Orger, I return my sincere thanks for their ability and will to serve the piece. Miss E. Bolton claims my thanks.—I cannot conclude without offering my acknowledgements to Mr. Arnold, for his suggestions as a friend, and his liberality as proprietor.—T. E. H.”

And so, Mr. Theodore Edward Hook, you have the modesty to think that because you wrote this play in *less than a week*—the public must make allowances for it? Why, man, when we attended the representation we could not suppose that it took *three* twenty-four hours—but now we have read it, and, as Dryden says, discovered “that *trashy stuff*,” whose glittering deceived us in the action,” we are ashamed of ourselves for having allowed *three* half so much time; Lopez de Vega, had he been alive, would have written something better deserving the name of *Safe and Sound* in less time than your worthless opera was performing:—and yet, because it was *done* in less than a week, some allowance is to be made, is it?—what for? For insulting the audience, by admitting that any thing was good enough for them? that however carelessly it was done, it must be overlooked, because forsooth it has introduced, what you call, *admirable music* from your father?

One would have thought that a week or two more might have been spared, at least, if it had been only to try whether the author could not have produced something worthier of his sire—if he had failed, after greater attention, it would have been more honourable to his feelings. Our readers will remark that the public stand for nothing, in this business—they are of no consequence; the players, Mr. Hook and his papa, and Mr. Arnold the proprietor, are all that need consultation.

The piece was occasionally received with disapprobation; but the audience after giving it a decent hearing, grew so exasperated that at the end of the third act it was sent, to the shades below. Notwithstanding this, the

managers and author knowing that any thing will do now-a-days, provided it is assisted by a dozen of puff paragraphs in the newspapers! have endeavoured to blow it into resuscitation merely for an ephemeral existence; for which purpose it has been compressed—but if the author was to compress all the merit into a nut shell, it would not be filled; however it pleased us better in that shape; as, (to deal in that kind of wit in which Mr. H. is a trader, we mean poor Joe Miller), “of two evils we wish to choose the least.”

Sept. 19, the *Lyceum* closed the season, with the following address:—

“Ladies and Gentlemen,—This evening’s performance will close the first season of the English Opera. The difficulties which the proprietors have had to encounter, in establishing an Opera, where *native talent* alone was to be employed, have been great, but they have been rewarded in an eminent degree, not only by your flattering approbation, but by your constant and liberal patronage. Their efforts have been so successful, as to prove that *our Native Muses* have *native troops* in abundance, able and willing to fight their battles, WITHOUT CALLING IN THE AID OF FOREIGN AUXILIARIES. When a little time shall have matured their plans for your more extended amusement, the remembrance of your kindness will give vigour to their exertions, and enable them, at a future period, to render the English Opera worthy the protection of the English nation.—In the name of the proprietors, Ladies and Gentlemen, and of the performers in general (many of whom, but for this establishment, might never perhaps have had an opportunity of being honoured with your fostering applause), I have to offer you the grateful tribute of their sincere and heartfelt thanks. For them, therefore, and by their desire, I respectfully bid you farewell.”

Consummate prevaricators!

“Mark, how a plain tale shall put you down.”

It is notorious to all the town that *they* had *foreign auxiliaries*;—a band of *French Dancers*: and it was daily advertised in their bills, “FROM THE GRAND OPERA AT PARIS”!!!! Perhaps the lesson just given by the public has convinced them of this impropriety; and perhaps they have received a hint from a quarter that must be attended to; we hope they have; and we likewise hope, that we shall hear no more of Buonaparte’s myrmidons pocketing John Bull’s money, and singing on their road to

* As for *native talent*, and *native muses*, and *native troops*, we boldly affirm, that there existed more wit, more of the stamina, and real character of the country, at the late Bartholomew Fair, than in the *Lyceum*!!!!

Paris, with light hearts and heavy pockets
Ah! ah! c’est un barbare! En vérité! Ah! oui! c’est un bête, aussi, Mons. John Bull!

There be three degrees of comparison, saith our *Eton Grammar*, *apud J. Pote*; the primitive—the comparative—and the superlative;—and then the learned grammarian proceeds to tell us, by way of example, that, although not strictly regular, *malus*, is bad; *pejor*, is worse; and *pessimus*, is worst, these, by a comical concatenation of circumstances, happen to describe the commencement, progress, and termination of the *Lyceum* productions for the first season; viz. *Up all Night, MALUS*;—*The Russian Impostor, PEJOR*—*Safe and Sound, PESSIMUS*!—We have been troubled about the gender of these things, but finding them to be real non-descripts, we have adhered to the linguist’s text, as describing their general demerits.

Thus has concluded the introductory labour of this boasted “*English Opera*, with “*French Dancers*, under the authority of “the Lord Chamberlain”—an institution which was to have conferred dignity on literature, and to have heightened the taste and splendour of dramatic representations; instead of which, such is the fallacy of mundane affairs (as Francis Moore, the Physician and Almanack-maker, would say), it has disgraced the former, and rendered the latter thoroughly contemptible. For ourselves, whose hard duty * to the Panorama, has obliged us to witness, with heartfelt emotion, this lamentable degradation, we bid adieu to Messrs. Arnold and Co. for the present, hoping, for the sake of their credit, that next season will present something better than a mere repetition of such exhibitions; which have made others, as well as ourselves, “as melancholy as a gib cat, or a lugg’d bear, or an old lion, or a lover’s lute, or “the drone of a Lincolnshire bagpipe.”

* * For a description of the new theatre of Covent Garden, and an account of its opening, see page 120 *et seq.*

* If our readers could be aware how irksome and dispiriting this part of our duty has been, they would, in Christian humanity, pity us. Talk of poor souls, in *purgatorio*, indeed! why, Sirs, they are

“To a better fate design’d,”
and not condemned, like us, to contemplate

“The dregs and rubbish of mankind.”
They are not bound patiently to listen, night after night, to

“Poets in a raging vein,
“E’en to the dregs and squeezing of the brain.”

ROYAL JUBILEE.

COMMEMORATION OF HIS MAJESTY'S ENTRANCE ON THE FIFTIETH YEAR OF HIS REIGN.

Human life has long since been abridged from what were its original limits; and the contracted space which late generations are allowed to occupy, scarcely permits us now to reach that duration which the patriarchs of ancient days would have regarded as maturity. Nevertheless, in our little time we see enough of the vicissitudes of families and connections, of states and empires, to demonstrate the mutability of terrestrial objects. When a child is born into the world, the chance that it will pass through the hazardous period of infancy, the thoughtless exposures of childhood, and the studies of youth preparatory to the meridian of life, are many to one against it. When arrived at full powers the chances that it should reach old age, are not less unfavourable. But, whatever be the hazards and the toils to which men in ordinary life are exposed, they are nothing to the labours and anxieties of those who are called to occupy superior stations, and to study the welfare of realms and communities. High station is a mark for the ribbald and the rash, which they bespatter with what they think wit, however impertinent:—it is an object of virulence to the ungrateful, and the inconsiderate who fancy miseries where the intelligent would find blessings. Yet the solicitude of Royalty extends to the ribbald and the rash, it includes the ungrateful, and inconsiderate; and for these, as forming a part of the general mass, the King must care, whether or not they care for themselves. Whatever tends to shorten life, imperfection of bodily constitution, or “evil that flesh is heir to,” attaches no less to a king than to his subjects; while many other causes contribute to diminish his strength, and to accelerate premature old age. For, it will be recollected, that the abilities mental or personal of an individual do not enlarge with the enlarged sphere of activity in which he is placed; nor do his powers increase with the increased magnitude of the concerns that press on his attention. The station of Head over a great community is not a primary appointment of nature; and extensive empires are anomalies in the moral and natural constitution of things. In fact, man is a feeble being: but there is a kind of infinitude in the rational powers bestowed on him, which enables him to achieve what much exceeds his original destination.

The human hand possesses but a moderate portion of strength, yet in association it constructs immense castles, and wonderful cathedrals: the human eye is calculated for

inspection of the ground immediately around it, and a not very distant horizon naturally bounds its views;—yet we know that under the direction of ingenuity, it penetrates into regions remote from those of this globe, and explores tracts of space of which, by its own powers, only, it could form no conception. Such are the effects of science; and not less surprising is the result of that application of mental energy to great affairs, which enables a public personage to consult—not the advantage of a part, but the good of the whole;—not the benefit of to-day, but the profits accruing to future years. Extensive blessings must often be purchased with partial detriment; and a small loss comparatively, must be endured by some, in order to insure the prosperity of the whole. But, those who endure this small loss will not easily be persuaded that their sufferings are not those of the community at large; and since they find things go ill with them, they infer, that they certainly go ill with the state.

To this we must be allowed to add, that for purposes unknown to us in the government of the world, Providence often thwarts the best intentions of rulers of nations, and renders the most wisely conducted plans even worse than useless. Let man learn modesty from what his observation will recollect in justification of this assertion; for whoever is so overweening of his own abilities or projects, as to think he could have accomplished that in which others have failed, shews a want of discretion which the cautious will consider as no indication of superior understanding.

In the multifarious concerns of a great and commercial nation, there will always be a difficulty in determining those to which preference is due; but it may be laid down as a general rule, that *home concerns* are of more importance than those which may properly be called *foreign*; and that a nation of which the *interior* is improved, has little cause of complaint though the *exterior* may have sustained injury.

Whoever, in coincidence with these sentiments considers the immense improvements in truly national objects that have taken place during the reign of his present Majesty, will find reason to applaud the patriotic spirit in which they were conceived and executed.

Are the means of general happiness more fully within the ability of the mass of the population? Are the advantages of education more extensive than before? are the number of persons well educated greater than formerly? We apprehend that these questions must be answered in the affirmative. Are the accommodations of life, decent residences, convenient furniture, and euable supplies of the comforts which domestic economy should afford, procurable, and actually enjoyed, by a

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greater proportion of the subjects than formerly? We suppose they are. Have the laws been impartially administered? Has the Bench been free from suspicion of bribery, or of corruption for purposes of oppression? Has the Church been marked by morality, and have the dignitaries which have been promoted in it, justified by their virtue the choice which promoted them? These are important benefits. Has Agriculture flourished, and with it the means of labour to many, and of subsistence to all? Have those Manufactures which are natural to the kingdom been maintained, and improved? Has the Population been supported?

We apprehend, that whoever can appreciate justly the state of our Agriculture, Manufactures, and Population, as they stood in the year 1760, and will compare them with their present state, will find, not *merely* that they are equal to what they then were, but that they greatly surpass their then condition. The number of our people is certainly increased, and happily we have not been visited with a pestilence whereby they should be reduced. This may serve as some kind of test for the calculation of proper answers to the other questions. Could our Agriculture fifty years ago, have supported our present population?—We believe it could not. Did our Manufactures give employment to an equal number of persons as that to which they now give employment? Certainly they did not: for at that time, whatever was *French* was so much in vogue, that no opposition could controul it. French cloths, French silks, French laces, French cambrics, French hoops, and French *têtes*, were worn at court, not merely without shame, but with feelings of pride. French looking-glasses, French prints, French snuff-boxes, French buttons and buckles, were *every thing* in the estimation of the bucks and bloods of the day: and even of no small portion of the more sedate part of the public: nay, so far was this degrading custom popular, that the late Matthew Bolton sent over to France some of his most ingenious contrivances, that they might be smuggled into England with the reputation of French workmanship attached to them. Who checked this *rage* at court?—The King, who observed to the Earl of Carlisle that he should be happy to see *him* at court, but not his *French* suit. Our nobility took the hint; and presently British ingenuity triumphed.

And if we bring our public morals to the test of comparison, we find ourselves much beholden to his present Majesty. It is well known that those *foci* of intrigue, masquerades, were fashionable and *frequent*, before his Majesty's accession: after that event many years passed without one; there has been none at court: and those which now and then are offered to the public, are barren both of

praise and profit. The court drawing-room was held in an evening, till the King ordered it in open day-light—open day-light is not favourable to intrigue:—nor was it seldom that a royal mistress had presided either publicly or covertly over the court assembled on such occasions. His Majesty has never insulted public decency by the installation of a mistress: no French prostitute has obtained the secrets of state from the lips of royalty, and betrayed them to the enemy of Britain and mankind. Nor let it be forgot that his Majesty found the custom of card-playing, with other games, at routs, &c. on Sundays, so inveterately established among his nobles, that nothing less than his own personal example and authoritative injunctions could have restrained and reformed it. It ought to be known, that his Majesty commissioned his brother, the then Duke of York, to visit a certain lady of the highest rank, who held assemblies on a Sunday evening; under the express command of the King *not to play*; and when the cards were offered to the Duke, and parties were forming for him, he announced the *Orders of the Sovereign, as to himself*: the inference was easily understood by the company, and the Duke did not see the Orders of the Sovereign disobeyed.

In short, if morals be the strength and prosperity of a people which principle we hold to be undeniable, then has his Majesty during his reign contributed essentially to invigorate and aggrandize Britain. His exemplary behaviour in his family; his punctuality and piety at public worship, his orderly attendance on the institutions of religion, have distinguished him as a prince. Would to God, there were no worse husband, father, master, landlord, neighbour, in his dominions than George the Third!

And be it remembered, that to these moral qualities Britain owes her existence at this moment, as an independent state. French intrigue would, to a certainty, have succeeded in embroiling this country in civil war, had not our King been a man in whose integrity the nation might confide. Had he been one of those characters of which too many disgrace the higher ranks, we had been a *Department* of France: or, those determined to be free had fled to the fastnesses of the mountains; and here and there, at awful intervals of distance, had the British banner waved.—Those who can endure the thought may pursue it to the conception of what might have been: for us, the mere idea is too painful.

If, then, our present freedom from the everywhere galling yoke of the inveterate Napoleon,—if the honours due to integrity, piety, and morals, in high station,—if correct conduct as a man, and polished manners as a gentleman,—if the spirit of encouragement

to national manufactures—and of agricultural pursuits, as benefits to the country, if attention to the welfare of the public at large,—if the utmost care for the honour of the greater departments of the administration which most immediately come in contact with the people, and for the purity of the religious establishment of the country, may claim our gratitude to the King, that gratitude will be withheld by no true Briton: that gratitude is due for benefits received by this nation, from the personal conduct of its Sovereign.

And to those who may censure, with apparent reason, the misadventures that have attended certain efforts of Britain in *foreign* affairs, we remark, that those were at any rate of *secondary* concern; that they were never understood to be completely under our individual control as a nation; that we cannot be responsible in *foro conscientie* for the misconduct or imbecilities of others; that they have been compensated by advantages in other quarters; that on the whole the strength of Britain has comparatively suffered no diminution; and that those who leave out of their consideration the dispensations of Providence, as overruling human efforts, have yet much to learn on the subject of the welfare, prosperity, duration and happiness of empires.

Thoughts on the Averages of the Reign of Kings.

We have dropped a hint in the foregoing pages on the probability that the lives of kings should generally be shorter than those of men in humble stations of life; we shall pursue the speculation so far as to annex the remarks of Sir Isaac Newton on this subject, as stated in his *Chronology of the Greeks*.

“The Greek chronologers, who follow Timæus and Eratosthenes, have made the Kings of their several cities who lived before the time of the Persian empire to reign about 35 or 40 years apiece, one with another; which is a length so much beyond the course of nature as is not to be credited. For by the ordinary course of nature kings reign one with another about eighteen or twenty years apiece: and if in some instances they reign one with another five or six years longer, in others they reign as much shorter: eighteen or twenty years is a medium. So the eighteen kings of Judah who succeeded Solomon, reigned 300 years; which is, one with another, 22 years apiece. The fifteen kings of Israel after Solomon, reigned 259 years which is 17½ years apiece. The eighteen kings of Babylon, Nabonassar, &c. reigned 209 years; which is above 11 years apiece. The ten kings of Persia Cyrus, Cambyzes, &c. reigned 208 years; which is almost 21 years apiece. The sixteen

successors of Alexander the Great, and of his brother and son in Syria, Seleucus, Antiochus Soter, &c. reigned 244 years after the breaking of that monarchy into various kingdoms, which is 15½ years apiece. The eleven kings of Egypt, Ptolomæus Lagi, &c. reigned 277 years, counted from the same period; which is 25 years apiece. The eight in Macedonia, Cassander, &c. reigned 138 years, which is 17½ years apiece. The thirty kings of England, William the conqueror, William Rufus, &c. reigned 648 years; which is 21½ years apiece. The first twenty-four kings of France, Pharamundus, &c. reigned 458 years; which is 19 years apiece. The next twenty-four kings of France, Ludovicus Balbus, &c. 451 years; which is 18½ years apiece. The next fifteen, Philip Valesius, &c. 315 years; which is 21 years apiece: and all the sixty kings of France, 1224 years which is 19½ years apiece. Generations from father to son may be reckoned, one with another, at about 33 or 34 years apiece; or about three generations to an hundred years: but, if the reckoning proceed by the *eldest* sons, they are shorter; so that three of them may be reckoned at about 75 or 80 year: and the reigns of kings are still shorter, because kings are succeeded not only by their eldest sons, but sometimes by their brothers, and sometimes they are slain, or deposed, and succeeded by others of an equal or greater age: especially in elective or turbulent kingdoms.”

So far our very learned author —

If such be the usual limits of Royal lives, then a reign of fifty years is *distinguished*, by Nature and Providence; and it ought to be distinguished by the Community. Since the Conquest, we have had only Henry III. and Edward III. who have reigned *fifty* years: Elizabeth exceeded *forty-four* years; but all our other Sovereigns fell short of forty years.

We understand that there are *precedents* for the celebration of a Jubilee on similar occasions; and we frankly acknowledge, that if they authorize the introduction of Roast Beef and Plumb-pudding on the table; with “a health to his Majesty” in a bumper, we shall conform to them:—nay further, if “thanks for past favours” be the toast, our sobriety will admit of a second: certainly “the Queen and Royal Family”, will justify a third: and then for “Rule Britannia”:—but if any be so unwise as to urge to impropriety—let him know that there is no loyalty in intoxication: that his Majesty, who does not get drunk himself, never desired one of his subjects to drink away his senses to do him *honour*! and that, we shall give no credit to those for their loyalty, who do not unite the fear of God with the honour of their King: in other words, HONEST BRITONS WILL BE

MERRY AND WISE.

INCOMPARABLES COMPARED :

OR,

PHRASIFICATION *versus* FALSIFICATION.

"Certainly, the French are the most complimentary nation on the face of the earth."—We doubt it. "Certainly, the adulation they have poured forth on Robespierre and Buonaparte has surpassed all former surpassings :—" We doubt it. "Certainly the epithets which they have bestowed on their public functionaries have exceeded whatever has passed current among the sons of men :—" We doubt it. The French nation has, indeed, mimicked the oriental style ; but as a monkey mimicks a man ; the courtiers of Buonaparte have never yet arrived at that easy and flowing strain of hyberbolic—exuberant—entitulation, which marks the *arêts* of the Sublime Porte, and enriches the public compositions of the Protector of the Faithful. Still less has Buonaparte ever addressed to his minions the honourable characters, which the Grand Seigneur bestows, with a prodigal hand, on the officers whom he dignifies by his addresses ; and, in truth, whatever public opinion may affect to believe, whatever the partisans of ancient establishments, errors, and prejudices may enviously propagate, we deem it our duty to expose in explicit terms the ineffable **MODESTY** of the Great Man ! the Emperor and King ! the Chief of the Great Nation ! Neither is this the only virtue in which we have discovered—what we must be indulged with permission to call—his excess :—but of that in the proper place ; for in the full length character which we have in hand of this Meteor of modern times, we have left, **GREAT BLANKS** for the insertion and display of his inestimable virtues, which hitherto,—it is a feeling subject—have not had justice done them.

We cannot but indulge in the conception of that delight with which the French nation would receive an edict, dated from St. Cloud, addressed to the Imperial Vizir, "the pillar of glory and happiness !" or to the Minister of Marine, as "the most distinguished of all glorious personages, and idol of the public esteem !"—But not to anticipate : we beg leave to submit an example, by way of prototype, and feel ourselves too happy in an opportunity of submitting a copy of a masterly performance in this way, for the service of the Imperial **NAPOLEON LE GRAND ! !**

Translation of a Hatty Sheriff, or Imperial (Sign Manual) Command, addressed to the Government of Egypt.

"To our honoured minister and illustrious counsellor, whose prudence, sagacity, and zeal, directs the affairs of the world : who is the pillar of glory and of happiness ;

distinguished by the protection of the Most High, our vizir Ismael Pasha. May God perpetuate your splendour !

"To the most upright of judges, and the best of Mussulman Commanders, source of learning and of perfection ; who is an honour to the laws and to justice, adorned by the favour of the Omnipotent, our Molla of Cairo. May God increase your dignities and your virtues !

"To the powerful and honourable Commanders ; asylum of most illustrious suppliants ; to whom is entrusted the execution of sovereign mandates, the Sheik Bellad, and other ruling Beys of Egypt. May God perpetuate your felicity !

"To the most distinguished of all glorious personages, idol of the public esteem ; our co-operator and commissioner, sent by our Sublime Porte, the Capigee Bachi, Mustafa Tahir Aga. May God perpetuate your glory !

"To the most venerable Doctors. To the Sheriffs Vefagé and Bekryé. To the Chiefs of the four sects ; and to the doctors of the Azhar. May your virtue be augmented !

To the Superiors of their Equals, the captains, and renowned officers of the seven agiaks of Cairo. May your power be increased."

We fear, that this phrase "to the superiors of their equals," may be thought to partake rather of a western than of an eastern origin : but, *n'importe* : we can safely affirm that it has a meaning ; and so, perhaps, has the wish that the virtues of the parties addressed may be increased : to this we heartily add our *Amen* !—But what says the Sultan himself ?

"All those who dare transgress this command, will find their punishment in this world, and in the world to come. It is for the most important affair of state, and of religion, that this express and irrevocable command is issued. Conform to it with zeal and with activity, FOR SUCH IS OUR ROYAL WILL."

"May God confound those in this world, and punish them in the next with an eternal punishment, who oppose this order.

"Conform, therefore, exactly to our command, and let our voice inspire you with a due fear,—if not—by God we swear, that you will incur our indignation, and the severest punishments shall be the fruits of it. You who are enlightened by the Mussulman religion : you who are profound in history and the study of books, applaud these our orders—and if your counsel for their execution prevail not—inform the Sublime Porte of the cause and consequence ! ! !"

But if we are obliged to yield the palm of phrasification to the Ottomans, we adjudge the laurel of falsification (which is much the same thing), to the nation that has kindly

undertaken to enlighten the world ;—the ungrateful world ! which has long yawned over the intentions and pretensions of the most long-suffering Gallo-Corsican *benevolence*. No longer able to obtain a hearing, when promising in its own name what great things it will do, it has lately had recourse to an ingenious novelty, and has contrived to make the King of Great Britain himself a party to the *manœuvre*. Yes ! the French have triumphed over George the Third ! and have brought him to a confession—of what nothing but force could reduce him to confess. Never, in the *forty-nine* years of his reign has he been so humbled ! Buonaparte has commanded that even his speech should fail him, ere he could attain his fiftieth ; and has determined that his own English should not remain the property of the Prince who “ was born a Briton.” Hail, happy France ! whose modesty is so effectually and delicately studied by her governing powers

King's Speech

“ My lords and gentlemen,

“ The atrocious and unparalleled act of violence and treachery by which the Ruler of France attempted to surprize and to enslave the Spanish nation, while it has excited in Spain a determined and unconquerable resistance against the usurpation and tyranny of the French government, has, at the same time, awakened in other nations of Europe a determination to resist, by a new effort, the continued and increasing encroachments on their safety and independence.

“ Although the uncertainty of all human events, and the vicissitudes attendant upon war, forbid too confident an expectation of a satisfactory issue to the present struggle against the common enemy of Europe, *His Majesty commands us to congratulate you upon the splendid and important success which has recently crowned the arms of the Emperor of Austria, under the able and distinguished conduct of his Imperial Highness the Archduke Charles.* To the efforts of Europe for its own deliverance, His Majesty has directed us to assure you, that he is determined to continue his most strenuous assistance and support, convinced that you will agree with him in considering every exertion for the re-establishment of the independence and security of *other nations*, as no less conducive to the true interests than it is becoming the character and honour of Great Britain.”

We merely repeat, in distinct terms, that the paragraph respecting Spain is omitted in the version : for which we are of opinion, that very tedious reasons may be given ; and we recommend the example to the Lord Mayor, when next commanded to assist in passing resolutions that criminate himself. As to the distinction of COMMON ENEMY OF EUROPE,—it may suit the King of England

that Truth, the naked goddess, is not suffered to appear, until clad à la *Parisienne* in a most subtle veil and vesture of French *cambric* ! A modern antique !

Cois tibi pene videre est

Ut nudam—

We are about to record the most signal instance of conscious self-application of a character, that has occurred within memory :—if the parties had not known and felt that the cap fitted them, they would never have inflamed the grimaces of their physiognomy, by the uncommon anxiety with which they have laboured to pull it off.

As a correct copy of his Majesty's speech, delivered to Parliament June 21, 1809, may be seen by turning to Vol. VI. p. 798, we shall only insert those paragraphs which are necessary to establish our verdict on the merit of *falsification, à la Française*, as now practised by Messrs. Buonaparte, Barrère, and Co. at their original office, at Paris.

French Version, from Moniteur of Monday July 10, 1809. No. 191. Page 754.

“ Mylords et Messieurs,

“ L'incertitude des choses humaines, et les vicissitudes qui accompagnent la guerre, ne nous permettent pas de nous livrer avec trop de confiance à l'espérance de voir la lutte présente se terminer heureusement ; car nous avons à lutter contre un ennemi d'un génie actif, à qui tout prospère, et dont tous les desirins, même les plus incroyables, s'accomplissent toujours. Cependant, S. M. m'ordonne de vous assurer qu'Elle est résolue de continuer d'aider et de soutenir de tout son pouvoir les efforts que fait l'Autriche, persuadée que vous pensez avec Elle que toutes les mesures qui tendent au rétablissement de son indépendance, ne sont pas moins utiles aux vrais intérêts de la Grande Bretagne, qu'elles sont convenables à son caractère et à son honneur.”

very well to bestow such a title on Buonaparte ; but it does not become Buonaparte to accept such a title from the King of England ; and therefore, in our opinion, he has shewn equal modesty and wisdom in waiving it!!!

“ Government has since circulated a correct copy of this Speech, &c. on the Continent.

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ON COARSE FLOUR, BROWN BREAD, AND THE
FORCE OF HABIT, AS IT RELATES TO ES-
CULENTS, BY RICHARD PETERS.

[From Memoirs of the Philadelphia Society
for promoting Agriculture; read March
8, 1808. Vol. I. 1808. p. 227, *et seq.*]

The difficulties experienced by our troops, [and especially by the cavalry horses of the British army in Spain,] to obtain that kind of food which they deem both palatable and nutritious, as well as the interesting facts it communicates, have induced us to give the following paper at large. We presume also, that the diseases to which our brave soldiers in the island of Walcheren have been exposed, and will be exposed, may be counteracted much more by dietetic regimen, than by the operation of medicine. The fulness of bread, of wheaten bread, enjoyed in most parts of Britain, is one of the chief causes of our failures on continental expeditions. We could wish that our officers would examine the manner in which the inhabitants live where they are stationed; and not deem below them an inquiry into the properties of "hard fare," when it may preserve the health and save the lives of their men. Let them so far acquiesce in the propriety of what they see before them, as to infer, that experience has dictated a mode of living most congenial with the climate and other circumstances. We venture to predict, that, be the next commander-in-chief who he may, he will do little honour to his country, if when a vessel arrives, purposely sent from London freighted with an enormous turtle only, he does not order the precious cargo to be thrown overboard.

"It has always appeared to me, that the preference given to bread made of *superfine flour*," was a mistake in our dietetic system.

Grain consists of mucilage or starch, and animalized matter, called by the French chemists *vegeto-animal*: of the former there are three, and of the latter *two-fifths*, in good wheat; and this latter (with resin, and sometimes oil), is contained in the outer coat, or skin; which is called *offal*, by those who, by every means in their power, detach it in the manufacture of fine flour: yet good and well-made bread depends on the admixture of both these substances in due proportions; they exist in the grain in a state of mechanical mixture, and not of chymical union.

This union is accomplished in grain, by the process of germination or malting. The result is, saccharine matter, or sugar, which, until this union, was not possessed perfectly by either of the parts. The operations of fermenting and baking the flour, so as to form it into good and wholesome bread, produce the like union and effect.

By this statement it seems to me, that the more the *vegeto-animal* part is detached, in refining the flour, the more the necessary proportions are destroyed, and the less nutritive and healthful this *esculent* becomes. There is the less of the materials necessary to form sugar, which, of itself, is highly nutritious. Crews of ships in distress have been sustained on sugar alone for a great length of time. Nature has provided all the parts of the grain to correct the qualities of each other; all to assist in the uses designed: the finer the flour, the more of the aliment is deficient, and the more must be required of the residuum for sustenance,* after the grade of perhaps the best middlings; all the other, and *extra* manufacture, is to gratify the prejudice of education and habit. The old King of Prussia's soldiers ate, on a campaign, little of any thing farinaceous, except ammunition bread: this was made of the grain triturated or ground, but not bolted, being passed through hand sieves, which detached no great proportion of the coat of the grain. The Dutch sailors were supplied with such bread, and chiefly made of rye.† Since our flour-

* The infusion of bran or offal of grain, is highly nutritive, and the longer it is macerated, so as to avoid acidulating, the better; but sour food is the most grateful and alimentary for swine: one gallon of sour wash goes farther than two of sweet; dry rotten wood should be constantly in the pen, that the hogs, when confined for fattening, may eat it at pleasure: nature points out this absorbent (or whatever it may be) as a remedy, or preventive; they will leave their food to devour rotten wood, when they require it. I have not lost a fattening hog for more than 30 years, when I used it, but have suffered by neglecting it: some of my neighbours met with frequent losses of fattening hogs, till I informed them of my practice, of which I was told by a woman from East Jersey, before our revolutionary war; she said, it was then known and practised there.

† Although the Dutch ship bread is, in appearance, disgusting, yet I risqué the disapprobation of those of better taste, by saying, that it is by no means so to the palate, if ate without prejudice, as it is by those for whose use it is made. A ludicrous accident (which I relate *meo periculo*) made this discovery to me some years ago. I was investigating into a controversy brought before me, on the ad-

mills have gained such high perfection in their capacity to manufacture superfine flour, the ship-bread (in my estimation) is by no means so sweet and nutritive as that made of the ship-stuff of former times. The oil and animalized matter of the coat or skin, corrects the costive qualities of the starch or mucilage, and adds to the alimentary properties. Whether more of these are now in fine flour, and, of course, less in the ship-stuff, or whether they are banished from both, I cannot, from any knowledge of the fact, assert.

The late Baron Steuben was educated in his military profession under the eye of the Great Frederick : having been one of his aids, and spent in the Prussian service much of his valuable life, he was singularly well-informed on such subjects. He has often told me, that the peculiar healthfulness of the Prussian soldiers was, in a great measure, to be attributed to their ammunition bread, which was counted the most nutritious and wholesome of their nation. The baron added, with his usual *naïveté*, that "this bread was only good for the health of soldiers, but gentlemen would prefer being sick on better bread." When, during the revolutionary war, I had an anxious, laborious, and often perplexing share, in conducting the war department, I

miralty side of the district court, by some American seamen, who complained against their captain, under the act of Congress, giving one day's pay to every mariner unnecessarily put on short allowance during a voyage, which, in this case, was from Amsterdam. The principal allegation was, that of having no bread wholesome or fit for the sustenance of the crew. Specimens were produced by the seamen of Dutch ship-bread, which being such as we are not accustomed to see, looked very forbidding. Curiosity induced me to taste one of those which seemed the best ; my attention was engaged in, and my mind occupied by, an argument on the construction of a clause in the law ; unconscious to myself of the circumstance, I continued eating the bread, till the small pieces exhibited were consumed, the council intermitted his argument, on perceiving that the testimony, unluckily for his clients' allegation, disappeared. A sailor stepped forward, under the apprehension of a discomfiture, with what he called another witness—another piece of bread, probably selected for the purpose ; the mouldy and carbonaceous appearance of this specimen would have gone far to prove the allegation, but having been before satisfied by other circumstances that the whole complaint was vexatious, and that the bread was generally such as was usually supplied to the Dutch seamen, I put an end to the ridicule, as well as the controversy, by dismissing the suit.

was advised to direct the mixing more of what is called the offall, with the flour, for the troops in a time of great scarcity ; but I knew the danger and difficulties in precarious times, (and, indeed, any other), of encountering common prejudices. A wholesome and very considerable supply of smoked herrings, and dried clams, for soup, had been provided in part for flesh : many drums and fies of the Pennsylvania line (on the first and second issue of these articles), were employed by the soldiers in escorting out of camp, under the rogue's march, these parts of the ration, suspended on poles, in grotesque procession ;—if the specked flour had been furnished, it would have accompanied them, and possibly the discontents would have reached other lines ; yet, many of the Pennsylvania soldiers were Irishmen, to whom, in their own country, a herring would have been a treat, and a clam a curiosity. Though convinced that the measure suggested as to the flour would have been a beneficent and healthy supply, this *gunnery hint* was sufficient to forbid the step. Any other kind of grain, prepared in the customary way, would have less violated the habits of our people. From the commander-in-chief (who never feasted while others suffered, though Indian bread was always provided for him at his table, as he preferred it to any other, through his life) to the lowest follower of the army, *Indian corn*, at one distressing period, was the sole esculent they possessed. The bad roads had interposed difficulties to the transportation, and prevented other supplies arriving at camp ; yet no serious evils ensued. A committee of field-officers of one of the state lines, waited on the general, to represent the distress and discontents of their troops. Dinner at headquarters was nearly ready to serve up ; and he, with his usual complacency and politeness, asked them to dine, before they received a final opinion as to their mission ; whereof he had been apprized. *Indian corn*, in various preparations, much of it *parched*, and nothing else, composed the banquet for a large company ; and the liquor was as humble as the esculent. The committee partook, with cheerfulness and admiration, and never renewed the subject of their mission. The dinner was a sufficient answer ; and their report of the occurrence, on their return, silenced every murmur. The *Prussian* discipline and tactics would have created less discontent, than issuing coarse wheat-meal or flour, even under privations of other supplies ; to say nothing about serving out *ammunition-bread*.

Habit is, according to the trite adage, a second nature. A singular instance of this, occurred in 1776, when our military systems were unfortunately calculated for temporary expedients ; the objections to a permanent

army of our own, had nearly brought us and our affairs within the power of that of our enemy. A body of troops, intended to consist of 10,000 men, was formed of a kind of militia, engaged for a few months, composed chiefly of country-people, unaccustomed to a military life, and collected in what was called *the flying camp*, in which they assembled in *New Jersey*. The police of a camp, including regulations of diet, cooking, and cleanliness, were unknown, or little attended to. Indeed, before the department of inspector-general was created, and placed under the direction of Baron Steuben, more of our troops fell by the filth, originating the diseases of the camp, than by the swords of the enemy. On this part of our army, the mortality was truly destructive. On the return of the remnants of this corps, on their way to their homes (where one half of them never arrived), the roads exhibited frequent and melancholy spectacles of the dying, and dead. They had indulged themselves on green corn; and had been fed on fresh meat, with little or no salt, and wheat flour. Many of them were from the southern states, and not accustomed to this diet: these took the route through Philadelphia, where the hospitals were crowded with the sick. *Diarrheas*, *dysenteries*, and *fevers*, carried them off in great numbers. Many died in the streets and in the markets; yet every medical aid, and every possible comfort, were afforded to them. They loathed, and many refused, the soups and provisions offered by the kindness of the citizens, or provided in the hospitals. Gen. Stevens, who had been bred a physician, and resided in Virginia, called at the War-Office, on his way to join the army, and the distressing calamity was detailed to him. He said we did not know how to treat the maladies of Virginians and Marylanders. The director of the military hospital, and the commissary of provisions were sent for, and came. The general desired, and orders were accordingly given, that all the *Lacon* and *Indian corn* that could be immediately procured, should be purchased, and the corn ground into meal, *rather coarse*. The troops were at once put on this diet; it operated like magic; and accomplished what the medical art could not effect. Those who loathed every thing else would, if caution had not been used, have greedily and dangerously devoured these articles, which had been, at home, their habitual fare. In a very short time, there was scarcely a dangerous case to be found; those, thus fed, having generally recovered. Many of them told me, that as soon as they smelt the *rashers* and *hoe-cake*, they felt, as they expressed themselves, *quite lively*, and were confident of getting home well; to which, no doubt, this fortunate persuasion, in no small degree, contributed.*

Kiln-dried grain is the least nutritious, probably because the oil and animalized matter are detached, by a degree of combustion, in the operation. This process is said to be indispensable, to fit *Indian corn meal* for exportation; but this does not prove its salubrity. Let swine be fed with *Indian corn meal* thus prepared, and those who make the experiment will not attempt it again. Any kiln-drying dissipates the oil and vegetable animal matter, in a greater or less degree; but if carried no farther than merely to destroy its vegetating principles, it is said not to injure its alimentary qualities.

Lord Dundonald recommends *milling* the grain on which horses are fed, to form and fix the saccharine quality.

Colonel Kowatch, who in our service commanded the infantry of Pulaski's legion, had been an old partisan officer in the north of Europe, and had commanded a large corps of irregular horse, either Cossacks, Croats, or Pandours. He fled thither, after the troubles of Poland. He told me, that they often *baked* the chopped or ground grain, for their horses, having previously formed it into portable cakes. It was fermented or raised, in an expeditious and simple way, by a kind of *leaven*. With this, they sometimes used *oil-cakes*. He said, *baked provender* went twice as far as raw meal, or grain. The saccharine quality was, no doubt, produced by this process, and its alimentary properties increased. General Pulaski had a favourite charger, to whom he often gave *bread*, which the animal seemed to enjoy far beyond any other food. In Holland it is a common practice to give horses *rye-bread*, or *baked provender*. The late Sheriff Pentrose, who had a fine team of working-horses, was in the habit of buying condemned *ship-bread*, as the most nutritious and cheapest horse-feed. He said others knew, and profited by its advantages."

The hint contained in the latter part of this paper in reference to the food of horses, may possibly prove of advantage to our cavalry where green food, only, and that in insufficient quantities can be obtained. Dry food in due mixture, though not natural to the horse in his native state, yet suits him well: witness the dried barley on which the Arabs feed their horses constantly; for as to hay, they know not what it is.

* Dr. Rush informs me, that in 1777, while he had the direction of a military hospital at Morris Town, he cured the same diseases by a like change of diet. The rations of fresh meat were exchanged with the farmers for salt pork and bacon.

INTERIOR OF AFRICA.—WILD CAMELS.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

SIR,—The numerous readers of your valuable miscellany cannot fail to remark, with peculiar satisfaction, your assiduous endeavours to recommend to their notice whatever is, in your opinion, calculated to promote the welfare and prosperity of the British empire, the general interest of mankind, and the extension of useful knowledge.

I therefore apprehend you will not be displeased to receive the following brief and authentic narrative of an arduous and adventurous undertaking which has all the above important objects in view.

On the veracity of the following account, which I received about a fortnight ago from the Cape of Good Hope, you may fully depend.

Cape of Good Hope, May 21, 1809.

"About ten months ago a Lieutenant Donovan of the 83d regiment, an assistant surgeon Cowan, and twelve Hottentots, left this Cape with the intention of travelling (if possible) as far as Mosambique. This undertaking, if it be accomplished, will far exceed any African travels that have hitherto been made, as the regions through which they must pass are utterly unknown to any European. Last week, letters, dated about two months ago, were received from these gentlemen, at which time they had penetrated twice as far as any former traveller; their letter being written in lat. 24° S. long. 28 E. It appears, by the information they had collected, that, in about twelve or fourteen days longer travelling to the N. E., they should arrive at a place to which white people were in the habit of going from Mosambique; so that there is great reason to hope this arduous enterprize may be successfully achieved. The country they were then in was fertile; the only discovery of material importance they appear to have made at the time their letters were written, was, that they found *wild camels*, animals not before known to be inhabitants of South Africa. This unexpected discovery may eventually prove in the highest degree useful to this colony, in many parts of which, for several succeeding days, a traveller cannot meet with water; and, from the burdens which camels are capable of bearing, they may probably supersede, in a great degree, the use of waggons, each of which require from eight or ten to sixteen or eighteen bullocks, to drag them through the sandy and stony roads in the vicinity of the Cape. What other beneficial con-

sequences may result from this expedition must probably remain for some time unknown. It is however a bold and extraordinary undertaking; and the gentlemen who had the fortitude and patriotism to engage in it ought surely to be handsomely rewarded."

It will appear, from the above extract, that the travellers had proceeded on a diagonal line, and in a north easterly direction, from 34° S. lat. and 23° E. long. (the situation of the Cape) to 24° S. lat. and 28° E. long., i. e. 10° to the northward, and 5° to the eastward; and that as the Mosambique isles are situated in 40° E. long.; and 15° S. lat., they had still to traverse 9° S. lat. and 13° E. long. so that their journey was not then nearly half completed; 15° of lat. and long. only being passed, 22° still remaining.

Another circumstance worthy of notice is, that though these adventurers had been ten months on their journey when the letters from them were received at the Cape, these letters appear from their date to have been only two months on their passage. It is therefore reasonable to believe, either that the travellers met with various and considerable difficulties in the prosecution of their journey, from which their messengers were relieved on their return, or that a very great portion of their time was spent in exploring the several hitherto unknown regions through which they passed.* Should this last conjecture prove to be well-founded, it cannot fail to reflect a still greater degree of lustre and glory on their gallant enterprize, since it will incontestably prove, that to fortitude, perseverance, and endurance of hardships and privations, they united what may be emphatically (and I trust not improperly) denominated the great desideratum and essence of travelling—philosophical research. For this, and indeed for the important discovery of the wild camels alone, were no other benefit to accrue from their wonderful attempt, they are surely entitled to the gratitude and remuneration of the most liberal and enlightened nation on the globe.

Should I receive from my correspondent and near relation at the Cape of Good Hope any farther account of these travellers, I will take the earliest opportunity of communicating it.

I remain, Sir,

Yours, &c.

BRITANNICUS.

London, September 26, 1809.

* Or in procuring information and preparing for their reception in unknown regions.

Editor.

PROSPECT OF TOLERATION ON THE
CONTINENT.

—*Fas est et ab hoste doceri.*

When we take a view of the occurrences of late and present times, we must, I think, be convinced that Providence has a great work in hand in the affairs of mankind, and that He best knows the proper means and instruments to effect this work there cannot be a doubt. Whatever may be the moral character of individuals, of men who by great talents and high attainments in arts or science obtain a distinguished influence in the affairs of the world, it is His prerogative to educe good from evil, and to give to the efforts of men, actuated even by selfish or malevolent passions, by ambition or avarice, the effect of promoting his benevolent purposes in regard to the human race. It may then be justly presumed that the eventful period in which we live, will terminate in a state of things highly beneficial to the real interests of mankind, although it may be through great suffering to a large proportion of the present generation. A just notion of the attributes of the Divine Being, the benevolent Creator, warrants a confidence in such a result of the appalling occurrences of the times. To the mind that feels such a confidence and that is earnestly looking for the moral and intellectual improvement of man, it is a matter of very trifling concern whether the family of Bourbon or of Buonaparte occupy the throne of France. Of the former the world has had ample trial. Of the latter trial is in progress. To both pre-eminently belong the character of ambition, which is indeed the national character of the French, and has long been the scourge of Europe, so says an Englishman, and truly he says right. What says the Frenchman? whom we must hear with candour and patience: That the avarice, the commercial avarice of England has been a scourge to the human race, in the other three quarters of the globe. Thus the ambition of France and the avarice of England disturb the world and interrupt the peace and happiness of mankind. They are now at dreadful issue, and fast approaches the awful moment of decision.

But together with the calamitous occurrences of war, history will coolly and impartially recognize the political regulations of these troublous times, some indeed highly honourable to both parties. The abolition of the African Slave Trade on the part of England, holds up a bright example to other nations, and will add lustre to the page of history. To Buonaparte with all his demerits let justice also be done. Both hemispheres have for ages been darkened by the ignorance, superstition and intolerance of popery. Buonaparte has not immediately and directly abolished popery, but he has expressly laid open a

free access to that light, which must sooner or later have the effect of dissipating the clouds of popish darkness; he has granted *Universal Toleration*; and in so doing, he has perhaps done an act of more political importance to the world than any man of his age has done. In answer to the address of the Protestant Consistory at Paris, in August 1807, he says, "conscience is not within the jurisdiction of human laws. I guarantee to you, for myself and my successors, not only the independence, but also the perfect freedom and inviolability of your worship." This is *universal toleration*. In May 1809 he divests the head of the popish religion of all temporal power and jurisdiction:—a stupendous act of reform in the Christian world! after having told the bigots of Spain at Madrid in December 1808, that "priests may guide the minds of men, but must exercise no temporal or corporal jurisdiction over the citizens." Which amounts to an absolute suppression of the Inquisition.

The friend of mankind cannot be justly denounced as an enemy to his country, whether that country be England or any other portion of the globe, who dares to assign due merit to such sentiments and decrees, though coming from the mouth of a Buonaparte; sentiments which will doubtless be influential in proportion to the power and authority with which they are accompanied. This influence has already had an operation in Germany, as may be exemplified by the speech of Jerome Buonaparte, the new king of Westphalia, in answer to an address from a deputation of the Jews of that country, in February 1808, in which he expresses himself thus, "That article of the constitution of my kingdom which establishes the equality of all religions is in perfect unison with the feelings of my heart. The law ought to interrupt no man in the exercise of his worship. Each subject is as much at liberty to observe the rules of his faith, as the king is to follow his religion. The duties of the citizen are the only objects which the laws of the government can regulate." Here again is *universal toleration*, than which there cannot be an act of higher political importance, or of closer conformity to the genuine principles of Christianity, a religion which, in its gospel purity, totally rejects all coercion by penalties or punishments, and refers to the prerogative of heaven the sovereignty of faith and opinions, whilst it leaves to the magistrate the controul and regulation of the civil duties of life. H.

* * Buonaparte's promise to the Spaniards, and his stipulations with the Archbishop of Goa, *exclusively* to maintain the catholic religion, we consider as exceptions from his usual policy.—*Edit.*

ILLUSTRATION OF A PASSAGE IN
SHAKESPEARE.

We are obliged to a correspondent, who proposes to read the following passage in *Cymbeline*, which has hitherto proved a stumbling-stone to commentators, very much in the spirit in which another friend explained it, *Panorama*, Vol. I. p. 356. The coincidence of ideas strikes us as deserving notice.

"You do not meet a man, but frowns : our bloods

No more obey the heavens, than our courtiers',
Still seem as does the king's."—*Act I. Scene I.*

The alteration suggested is as follows :—

"You do not meet a man but frowns : our bloods

No more obey the heavens, than our courtiers';
But still seem as does the king." *

Signifying, that "our bloods (temper, countenance, or disposition) no more obey the heavens (because, by appearing discontented, we arraign the justice of heaven) than our courtiers' (who are not remarkable for religion or morality); *but* still seem as does the king." The whole sense of the passage is, that one general feeling of discontent animated the minds both of king and people, and therefore their countenances both carried the same expression. Z.

ON THE SPONTANEOUS IGNITION OF
CHARCOAL.

Mr. Robin, commissary of the powder mills of Essonne, has given an account in the *Annales de Chimie*, No. 35, p. 93, of the spontaneous inflammation of charcoal from the black berry bearing alder, that took place the 23d of May, 1801, in the box of the bolter, into which it had been sifted. This charcoal, made two days before, had been ground in the mill without shewing any signs of ignition. The coarse powder, that remained in the bolter, experienced no alteration. The light undulating flame, unextinguishable by water, that appeared on the surface of the sifted charcoal, was of the nature of inflammable gas, which is equally unextinguishable.

The moisture of the atmosphere, of which fresh made charcoal is very greedy, appears to me to have concurred in the development of the inflammable gas, and the combustion of the charcoal.

It has been observed, that charcoal, powdered and laid in large heaps, heats strongly.

* I remember having seen it thus printed in an edition of *Shakespeare* published by Tonson.

Alder charcoal has been seen to take fire in the warehouses, in which it has been stored.

About thirty years ago I saw the roof of one of the low wings of the Mint set on fire by the spontaneous combustion of a large quantity of charcoal, that had been laid in the garrets.

Mr. Malet, commissary of gunpowder at Pontallier, near Dijon, has seen charcoal take fire under the pestle.

Experience has shown, that brimstone is not essential to the preparation of gunpowder; but that which is made without it falls to powder in the air, and will not bear carriage. There is reason to believe, that the brimstone forms a coat on the surface of the powder, and prevents the charcoal from attracting the moisture of the air.

The goodness of the powder depends on the excellence of the charcoal; and there is but one mode of obtaining this in perfection, which is distillation in close vessels, as practised by the English.

A MERMAID SEEN ON THE COAST OF
CAITHNESS.

It was without any reference to the fact of modern observation of the Mermaid, that we lately hinted at the possibility of discovering some marine animal corresponding so far with the popular notions of that creature's form and manners as to justify the rumour. Since that number was published the following has appeared in the London newspapers: and on that authority, it rests entirely. We have not, ourselves, received any direct communication on the subject.

Letter from Miss Mackay, daughter of the Rev. David Mackay, minister of Reay, to Miss Innis Dowager, of Sandside.

Reay Manse, May 25, 1809.

MADAM;—To establish the truth of what has hitherto been considered improbable and fabulous must be at all times a difficult task, and I have not the vanity to think that my testimony alone would be sufficient for this purpose; but when to this is added that of four others, I hope it will have some effect in removing the doubts of those who may suppose that the wonderful appearance I reported having seen in the sea on the 12th of January, was not a Mermaid, but some other uncommon, though less remarkable inhabitant of the deep. As I would willingly contribute to remove the doubt of the sceptical on this subject, I beg leave to state to you the following accounts, after promising that my cousin, whose name is affixed along with mine, was one of the four witnesses

who beheld with me this uncommon spectacle.

While she and I were walking by the sea shore, on the 12th of January about noon, our attention was attracted by seeing three people who were on a rock at some distance, shewing signs of terror and astonishment at something they saw in the water; on approaching them, we distinguished that the object of their wonder was a face resembling the human countenance, which appeared floating on the waves; at that time nothing but the face was visible; it may not be improper to observe before I proceed further, that the face, throat, and arms, are all I can attempt to describe, all our endeavours to discover the appearance and position of the body being unavailing. The sea at that time ran very high, and as the waves advanced, the Mermaid gently sunk under them and afterwards re-appeared. The face seemed plump and round, the eyes and nose were small; the former were of a light grey colour, and the mouth was large, and from the shape of the jawbone, which seemed straight, the face looked short: as to the inside of the mouth I can say nothing, not having attended to it, though sometimes open. The forehead, nose, and chin were white, the whole side face of a bright pink colour. The head was exceedingly round, the hair thick and long, of a green oily cast, and appeared troublesome to it, the waves generally throwing it down over the face, it seemed to feel the annoyance, and as the wave retreated, with both its hands frequently threw back the hair and rubbed its throat, as if to remove any soiling it might have received from it. The throat was slender, smooth, and white; we did not think of observing whether it had elbows, but from the manner in which it used its arms, I must conclude that it had. The arms were very long and slender, as were the hands and fingers, the latter were not webbed. The arms, one of them at least, was frequently extended over its head as if to frighten a bird that hovered over it, and seemed to distress it much; when that had no effect, it sometimes turned quite round several times successively. At a little distance we observed a seal. It sometimes laid its right hand under its cheek, and in this position floated for some time. We saw nothing like hair or scales on any part of it, indeed the smoothness of the skin particularly caught our attention.—The time it was discernible to us was about an hour. The sun was shining clearly at the time; it was distant from us a few yards only. These are the few observations made by us during the appearance of this strange phenomenon.

If they afford you any satisfaction I shall be particularly happy; I have stated nothing

but what I clearly recollect. As my cousin and I had frequently previous to this period, combated an assertion which is very common among the lower class here, that Mermaids had been frequently seen on this coast, our evidence cannot be thought biassed by any former prejudice in favour of the existence of this wonderful creature.

To contribute in any degree to your pleasure or amusement, will add to the happiness of, Madam, your greatly obliged,

(Signed) ELIZ. MACKAY,
C. MACKENZIE.

COVENT-GARDEN NEW THEATRE.

It will certainly be expected from us, that we should communicate some description of that new edifice, which has lately started up among us, Covent-Garden Theatre. This we should do with greater satisfaction, if we were so well persuaded as we wished to have been, that the hints we dropped as necessary to be attended to in the construction of public edifices, where great numbers of people assemble, had been complied with as far as possible. The thoughts we suggested were not the mere cursory flittings of the moment, but the result of repeated consideration of the subject, and of remarks made on examination of some of the most celebrated theatres in Europe.

It had not escaped our recollection, that Paris, as well as London, had seen several of her most considerable and frequented theatres consumed by fire; and that other public buildings, in a country where so great a quantity of timber is used in construction, are liable to the same calamity. A cathedral, which is mostly built of stone, is to a certain degree proof against fire: although few of our cathedrals can compare with the Abbot's Kitchen at Glastonbury, from which every thing combustible was excluded, in order to provide against a threat of a neighbouring nobleman, that he would burn it down. Many of our parish churches, also, are substantially built; and brick and stone enter into their composition in considerable quantities. There is nevertheless, a great proportion of assembly rooms, chapels, meetings, and other places of public resort, in which no other care appears to have been taken to guard against accidents, than in our ordinary dwellings. This we think censurable: in new buildings we even think it criminal: and this opinion we shall not cease to maintain, as occasion serves, till the public enter fully into a subject which so nearly concerns them.

We must confess, however, that our report on this newly erected theatre will not be so complete as to equal our wishes; for the confusion which it witnessed during the

week in which it was open, were any thing but favourable to consideration and reflection. What we have seen of the plan has *not* our hearty approbation; but we would not be understood to speak of it decisively, as our intimacy with it is but partial. For these reasons, we shall commence our description of the building from the exterior.

In the first place, we approve highly of the extensive (and additional) space occupied by the theatre. The former building we always considered as cooped up in a corner; and far enough from giving any idea of its nature or intention. It was no *public* structure.

We presume, indeed, that scarcely any of our theatres were considered as public structures, when they were erected. They were rather the private adventures of Messrs. A. and B. and Co. at whose risque they were instituted, than really national concerns. The extremely injurious fluctuations which some of them had experienced, the ruinous speculations they had proved to those who undertook to conduct them, had caused them to be considered as property of the most precarious description. On the sudden decision of an hour, depended the fate of thousands of pounds, hazarded in preparing an entertainment for the public; and to say that the public never was capricious would be equally unjust to the manager, as to say that the manager never was inconsistent in his conduct would be unjust to the public. Whatever censure may be due to Mr. Rich for his pantomimes, nummery, and tricks, (many of which were contrived, and made to produce effect, by the well known Jack Ellys: properly John Ellys, Esq. M. P. for Orford, where he had an estate) yet it must be acknowledged, that he contributed greatly towards rendering the theatre a settled and stable property. After his decease, Mr. Beard, who married one of his daughters, followed the track which he had seen attended with success, and by his own vocal talents, with the novelties of the comic opera,* he transmitted his office as manager, with his property as owner, in a much more established state than it had (sometimes) formerly been transferred from a proprietor to his successors. It must be remarked, however, that the value of the concern was not at that time what it has lately become; it increased in value under Mr. Colman, and, since his day, it has acquired much additional value.

These considerations comprize causes why situations less conspicuous might formerly be

proper, though now reprehensible. We must remember also, that from the increased population of the metropolis, the audiences at the theatres might be expected to increase also. Increased audiences demanded accommodations on a proportionate scale; and the magnitude was understood to be of necessity conformed to this enlarged establishment.

The late theatre at Covent-Garden had been repeatedly enlarged, in conformity with these ideas: the last time was under the direction of Mr. Richards, the scene-painter, who did all that was possible to be done in the given space: it is understood that he added room for above a hundred persons. But this enlargement in the *upper parts* of the house, added nothing to the strength of the *lower parts*; and the general opinion is, that had not the house been burnt, it must in a very few years, have been taken down:—it was fast advancing toward a state of *unsafety*. It may here be allowable to digress, so far as to observe, that the late theatre in Drury-Lane, though *new*, was daily becoming less and less fit for containing a large audience. It passes among the architects of this city for a fact, that the dry rot had got into the timbers; and that at some moment, when very heavily laden, it *might* have presented ruins, to be contemplated with much more awful feelings, than those we now behold.

The present theatre in Covent-Garden, is in many respects a great improvement on the former; though confined, for powerful reasons, to the site of its predecessor, yet it certainly has now the appearance of a public building. Unhappily, however, it is so situated, that no direct view of it can be obtained: no avenue leads straight down on its front; so that it is always seen in perspective; for the direct view of it allowed by a street so narrow as Bow-Street, is contemptible. This is no imputation on the architect, nor on the proprietors: on the contrary, the public is beholden to the latter for having purchased a number of houses in Bow-Street, and bringing this front into open day. This is the first great improvement. The building is now conspicuous; and the access is easy and *visible*. A very convenient court-yard is also obtained in Hart-Street; and more direct lines of communication with the surrounding approaches.

In contemplating this structure, we ought to weigh well the difficulty of composing and adjusting the parts of a front, of considerable extent, of which from its nature, a great part must be a total blank, a mere *dead wall*. It was not susceptible of being lightened in its general effect by the introduction of windows, or other marks of being inhabited. The adjustment and proportion of the parts to each other, was the only resource (the

* Respecting the Comic Opera of former days, see page 88 of present number; as it ought not by any means to be confounded with the trash which now bears that name: we know that those were the sentiments of the late Gen. Burgoyne.

choice of those parts excepted) in the power of the architect; and this we take a pleasure in saying he has well understood. Each part has that dimension allotted to it, which corresponds with its office; and where no open part could be allowed, the basso-relievos and the niches fill up the space extremely well.

The centre is marked by a portico, supported by four Doric pillars, of large dimensions, projecting so far into the street as to accommodate the company that come in coaches. We confess that we had at first strong objections to the Doric order, as unsuitable to a modern theatre: our judgement preferred the Ionic; but, submitting our opinion to that of Mr. Smirke, (or rather, as is rumoured, to that of an elder artist who was consulted on this front) we reasoned, that these massy columns would afford a more ample protection to a number of persons, against the vicissitudes of our incessantly changing climate, than others of more slender proportions. They are of the Athenian character; very solid and firm; fluted with the (sharp) flutings proper to the order: and certainly have much of a Grecian appearance. Nevertheless, we know not how to shake off entirely our old prejudice; and to fancy, that as they are initiated from a temple, they have a something temple-ish connected with them. The windows (nine) in this front of course are not Grecian; but as they do not extend along the whole front, they leave ample space for projections (wings) at either end of it. In these projections are niches, which vary the forms to advantage, and serve to lighten the masses, respectively. Above the windows, in the spaces between the portico and the projections at the ends, are the *long* basso-relievos, a description of which is annexed to this article. These diversify the surface, not only with great propriety, but with considerable effect, and much relief to the eye.

The whole of this front is covered with composition in imitation of stone; the merit of which can only be determined by duration. It seems to be a good hard stucco, and it may last; but the changes in our atmosphere are so sudden, and sometimes so violent, that we doubt whether any stucco is competent to sustain them for any great length of time. The climate of Italy is different: in that some of Palladio's stuccoes have maintained themselves for two hundred years in a respectable condition.

Inasmuch then, as distinction is desirable for a building of this description, this building is completely distinguished from all others in the City of London. It is the most uniform and complete example of its kind: and does honour to the judgment of the architect.

We next direct our attention to the labours of the sculptor; by which it is adorned. We

are sorry to confess, that at the first inspection we mistook Tragedy for Comedy, and Comedy for Tragedy. This want of strongly marked character (we do not mean by this, *caricatura*) left an impression of distaste on our minds; of which we acknowledge the consciousness, even while writing this article. It imports nothing, whatever grace a figure may possess, if it be deficient in expression; and this especially where it is to be exposed to the inspection of the public at large. The members of the more numerous classes of citizens cannot be supposed to have acquired that portion of information which is necessary to understand the refined branches of art; yet these are judges in their place; and they can decide as correctly on much that strikes the eye, as the cobbler could on the sandal of Apelles. The remarks we heard from persons of this description, on the spot, and those which we have gathered from our well-informed friends in conversation since, have confirmed our sentiments.

The effect of the basso relievos, as to the place they occupy, we have already approved: the first remark made on them as works of art is that they have not sufficient relief. Opinions differ as to the propriety of their being *cut in*, hollowed into the stone; of this we approve, but think that a greater variety of relief would have been more favourable to their general appearance. They want boldness in some parts. This perhaps is the opinion which will be formed on all the sculptures. To avoid extravagance, the artists have preserved a sedateness, which does not properly belong to a theatre. In the saloon of a nobleman's mansion, these *steady* figures might suit well enough; but they give no indication of an edifice dedicated to the exhibition of powerful passions to move the heart, either to pity, or to ridicule. They excite neither weeping nor laughter: they rouse no sympathy: they tell no tale. They ornament the places they occupy, and fill up their respective niches well: they are handsome, but they are not expressive.

We proceed to the interior of the house.

The Grand Entrance to the boxes, is under the portico in Bow-street.

Turning to the left from the *Vestibule*, we ascend the *Grand Staircase*, which with its landing, forms the central third part of a hall, divided lengthwise by two rows of insulated Ionic columns in porphyry. Thence we enter the *ante-room*, with its porphyry pilasters, in which the bard of Avon is placed on a pedestal. The doors on the right open into the Grand Saloon (box lobby), which is ornamented in a similar style, and assumes something of the air of an antique temple.

There is another handsome but inferior entrance from Covent-garden, by a staircase with a double flight of stairs.

The Royal Entrance is by the open court from Hart-street, which will admit the royal carriages to the door of the private staircase to the apartments provided for Majesty.

On the space next Hart-street, the Treasurer's Office with other accommodations, is erected.

It was intended originally, to crown the centre of the edifice with a cupola, but that was given up.

The interior of the Theatre is somewhat larger than the late house. The form is different from those hitherto built: it approaches nearly to the circle.

The circles of boxes are three in number with a row of side boxes on each side above them, on a level with the two shilling gallery. These upper side boxes are without roof or canopy. Immediately behind them rise the slips, their fronts forming a perpendicular line with the back of the upper side boxes. The one shilling gallery, in the centre, ranges with the fronts of the slips; the whole assuming the circular form, and upholding a range of moderately sized arches, which support the circular ceiling. By this means, the great disfigurement is avoided, which occurs in our theatres from the very awkward appearance occasioned by the deeply recessed upper galleries, which spoil the symmetry of the theatres. Here, the gallery becomes an ornamental part of the design. It is divided into separate compartments of seats adapted to the arches, through which this elevated portion of the audience must see the play.

The third circle of boxes, (that under the two-shilling gallery) twenty-eight in number, is exclusively devoted to private Subscribers, who have a private entrance and staircase. These boxes are separated by close partitions as at the Opera; and are entered from the corridor through a close square ante-chamber, one belonging to each private box, somewhat less than the box itself in depth. The doors of these ante-chambers, and of all the boxes throughout, are of mahogany. The saloon attached to this circle, is in the same style as the public saloon, but finished with a beautiful light kind of verd antique instead of porphyry.

The ceiling is painted to resemble a cupola, in square compartments, in a light relief; the ornamented pannels are of a greyish ground, with wreaths of honey-suckles, &c. in gold. The box fronts are not inclined, as those at Drury-Lane were; nor bowed out, like the last at Covent-garden: but are perpendicular, as at the Opera. The ornaments are painted on canvas and fixed on the fronts. Each circle is supported by slender reeded pillars, in burnished gold. The seats are covered with light blue.

The stage, in height, breadth, and especially

in depth, appears to be of admirable dimensions. No boxes, except those over the side-doors, are suffered to intrude upon the proscenium; a proper departure from the common practice. On each side of the proscenium, are two lofty pilasters in scagliola, with light gilt capitals between, which are the stage-doors and Manager's boxes, &c. These support an arch (the segment of a circle) the soffit painted in light relief, from which descends the crimson drapery, over the curtain. Above, is a bold and simple entablature, with the royal arms (the supporters *couchant*) resting on its centre. In each spandrel of the arch is an emblematical antique celestial figure, holding the wreath, torch, &c. excellently executed in relief. The entablature, devices, and the whole frontispiece, are in the same light relievato as the cupola.

The whole is lighted by patent lamps, and elegant chandeliers.

It may be expected from us to state our sentiments on the interior of this theatre as to other purposes for which it should be adapted; but, to say truth, we have yet many things to learn on this subject. The theatre was opened on Monday evening, September 18, but the discords and dissonances which took place on that occasion, and continued throughout the week, required stronger nerves than those which we possess, to leave the mind at ease for contemplation.

We believe, however, that we may answer the question, whether the audience can see the stage and actors?—in the affirmative. We know nothing to the contrary. But the question, whether the actors can be heard? it is impossible that we should answer. It approaches towards a *bull* to say "the audience only heard themselves," yet such is the fact. Each night a variety of bills were circulated, placards were posted up, in sundry parts of the house, cat-calls, whistles, squeaking trumpets, bugle horns, and watchmen's rattles were *played off*, with most astonishing spirit and perseverance. The actors were so many apparitions; they "had their *exits* and their *entrances*;" but whether they were all dead or all married at the end of the piece, not a soul cared enough to inquire. At some periods, as if by word of command, the spectators in the pit rose up and turned their backs on certain *principals*;—at other periods they hissed, halloed, and hooted with all their power of lungs. The managers had magistrates in attendance; these appeared on the stage, but produced no effect; and as no act of violence was committed, the Riot Act was inapplicable. Some individuals, nevertheless, were apprehended, and were the next morning obliged to find bail to answer accusations. —However the opposition, riot and confusion, continued throughout the week, and during every night's performance, by the *ci-devant*

audience, not one word could be heard from the regular players—a vast number of placards and satirical allusions, printed on large sheets of paper, were exhibited every evening, and distributed in all parts of the theatre.

The causes of complaint stated by the audience were the rise of prices, and the intended employment of *foreign singers* in the pieces to be performed at this theatre. The rise of price is, to the boxes from 6s. to 7s.: to the pit from 3s. 6d. to 4s. The necessity for this rise has been stated by the manager to be, the very moderate return for the capital employed in this establishment, for several years past: not above *six per cent.* This too small profit, with the necessity of purchasing a number of houses in Bow Street, in order to enlarge the theatre, and render access to it commodious, with the contingent expences of a wardrobe, scenes, and every other accompaniment of a theatre, *entirely new*, occasioned so great an increase of capital, that it was necessary to meet the expences by an increase of price. On the other hand, various calculations have been published, shewing that the emoluments derived by the manager and his family, as actors, &c. were the causes of the non-profit to the concern at large: and many complaints have been made of the disposal of a complete row of boxes to *annual subscribers*, to the exclusion of the general public. This has been attributed to the advance, &c. &c. At length this cause of dispute has been compromised; by agreeing to refer the accounts of the theatre to a number of respectable gentlemen, who shall examine them, and report. The treasurer and sub-treasurer have since abstracted the particulars, and verified the correctness of their abstract by their oaths before the Lord Mayor. In the meanwhile the theatre is shut up. These particulars Mr. Kemble promised should be printed for the satisfaction of the public.

As to the second cause of complaint, the engaging of Madame Catalani, it is due to truth for us to say, that *we know* that this engagement was relinquished on the part of that lady, by her husband, Monsieur Vallebague, on the morning of the Monday, *before the theatre opened.* He observed, that he perceived a disinclination in the British public to admit his wife's singing at *that* theatre; and therefore he declined enforcing the contract:—desiring that the affair might be amicably settled. We understand, that the whole is since cancelled, by mutual agreement, without any penalty. We presume, that this will be deemed handsome in the parties. It was not, however, *till the Saturday*, when the theatre was about to be closed, that Mr. Kemble communicated the fact that Madame Catalani was no longer engaged.

Thus is suspended, for the present, one of the most strongly contested oppositions that has happened within memory. It would not be becoming in us to repeat a hundredth part of the rumours, and reports, and affirmations, and resolutions, and contradictions, to which this incident has given occasion. We suppose, that will be done as last, which might, with a much better grace, have been done at first; and that, if a proper and reasonable satisfaction had been offered to the town before the season began, either one side or the other would have been convinced by the arguments consequent upon it.

.....
Occasional Address, on the Opening of the New Theatre Royal, in Covent-Garden, September 18, 1809. Spoken by Mr. Kemble.

In early Greece, and in a barbarous age,
A wretched tumbrel was the Actor's Stage:
The Muse, with cheek redin'd in pensive shame,
Blush'd for her wand'ers from the path to fame.

Æschylus spring—and storm'd, as he arose,
His country's passions, like his country's foes,
Rough from the battle, train'd to vanquish men,
E'en as his sword he wielded, so his pen,
He smote the heart, the trembling sense oppress'd,
And gave no quarter to the human breast.

Yet, stage improvement mark'd the soldier's sway,
And ting'd with taste the captives to his lay.
Then first (the cart of Thespis overthrown),
Form'd by rude planks, a Theatre was known,
Cop'd by the Heavens, it overspread the lawn,
And light on scenic dress appear'd to dawn.

But, all divine, when Sophocles appear'd,
'Twas then the Drama's Majesty was rear'd.
Builders and decorators came;—their boast
Was, who could grace the lofty Poet most:—
The lofty Poet lack'd not brains to know
That Dramatists require the Drama's show.
Nature's perfection springs from various parts;
And "Nature's Mirror" needs the Sister Arts.

Hence grew the splendour of the scene—and hence
The hand-maids that embellish eloquence:—
Dance, music, painting, pageantry, parade—
All that give zest, or yield allusion aid.
Rome caught the sparks from Greece; improv'd the plan;
At last the flame through modern Europe ran.
Our scene now decks, in an illumin'd age,
The Bards who first gave vigour to our Stage:—
Thus Shakespear's fire burns brighter than of yore;
And may the Stage that boasts him burn no more!

For this our Fabrick—banish we to-night,
Figures worn threadbare, metaphors grown trite.
No phoenix from her ashes shall arise—
Stale to our thoughts as sparrows to our eyes!
No naked truism be cloak'd anew,
To tell that fire which cheers—consumes us too;
No—let a Briton now to Britons speak,
His cause is strong, although his language weak;
We feel, with glory, all to Britain due,
And British artists rais'd this pile for you;
While, zealous as our patrons, here we stand,
To guard the staple genius of our land.
Solid our Building, heavy our expence;
We rest our claim on your munificence:—
What ardour plans a nation's taste to raise,
▲ nation's liberality repays.

THE GATHERER.

I am but a *Gatherer* and Disposer of other Men's
Stuff.—WOTTON.

No. XIII.

Poetry by Henry VI.

The following verses are attributed to the pen of King Henry VI. They shew the taste of our language at the time, as well as his majesty's talent for poetry. The sentiments they contain are not peculiar to the experience of that sovereign : many who are not sovereigns may agree with them.

Kingdomes are but cares :
State ys devoyd of staie :
Ryches are redy snares,
And hastene to decaie :
Pleasure ys a pryvie prycke,
Wich vyce doth styll provoke :
Pompe unprompt, and fame, a flayme ;
Powre a smouldryng smoke.
Who meenethe to remooove the rocke
Owte of the slymic muddle,
Shall myre hymselfe, and hardlie scape
The swellynge of the floode.

" Patyence ys the armore and conqueste of
the godlie : thys merytythe mercie when
cawlesse ys suffered sorrowe."

" Nougte els ys warre bote furie and mad-
nesse, whereyn ys not advyse bote rashnesse ;
not ryghte bote rage rulethe and raigethe."

Guide over Cader Idris in Wales.

The following ought to have appeared in an earlier number of our work ;—but as it is not yet too late for those who intend to avail themselves of the pleasures attending a tour in Wales, after the sultry heats of summer are abated, we recommend to their consideration the claims and pretensions of a very useful companion, the conductor over the mountain of Cader Idris ; whose services are thus described in a handbill that has been circulated :—

ROBERT EDWARDS,

Second son of the celebrated tanner, William Edwards ap Thomas, ap William, ap David, ap Owen : great great grandson of Cadwgan ; a lineal descendant of Bleddin ap Cynfin, Prince of Powis.—Since his nativity the sun hath eighty times travelled to its summer solstice : fifty years was he host of the Hen and Chickensalehouse, Pen-y-bont. Twenty of which he was apparitor to the late right reverend father in God John, Lord Bishop of Bangor, and his predecessor ; by genius a fly-dresser and

angler ; is now, by Divine assistance, conductor to and over the most tremendous mountain Cader Idris, to the stupendous cataract of Cain and Mowdach, and to the enchanting cascades of Dol-yn-Mellyn-llyn with all its beautiful romantic scenery ; guide general and grand expounder of all the curiosities of North Wales :

Born March, 1723.

Special Pleading ! Bear Baiting.

Bear-baiting made one of the amusements of the romantic age of Queen Elizabeth. It was introduced among the princely pleasures of Kenilworth, in 1575 ; where the droll author of the account introduces the bear and dogs, deciding their ancient grudge by way of duel. " Well Syr, (says he) the beaz wear brought-foorth intoo court, the dogs set too them, too argu the points even face to face, they had leardn coounsell alloo a both parts : what may they be coounted parciall that are retaiend but a to syde, I ween. No very feers both ton and toother eager in argument : if the dog in pleadyng woold pluk the bear by the throte, the bear with trauers woould claw him again by the skaip, confess & a list ; but a voyd a coold not that waz bound too the bar : and hiz counsell told him that it coold bee too him no poliecy in pleading. Therefore thus with fendng and prooung, with plucking and tugging, skratng & byting, by plain tooth and nayll, a to side & toother, such erspes of blood and leather waz thear between them, az a moonths licking I ween wyl not recouuer, and yet remain az far oout az euer they wear. It waz a sport very pleazaunt of theez beastz : to see the bear with hiz pink nyez leering after hiz enmiee approach, the nimblnesz & wayt of y^e dog too take hiz auantage, & the foss & experiens of the bear agayn to anoyd the assants : if he wear bitten in one place, hoow he woold pynch in an oother too get free ; that if he wear taken onez, then what shyft with byting, with clawyng, with roring, tossing and tumbling, hd woold work to wynde hymself from them, and when he was lose, to shake hiz earz twyse or thryse wyth the blud and the slaver about hiz fizinamy waz a matter of a goodly relief."

Stow, in describing the Bear-Garden, says, " Herein, were kept beares, bulls, and other beasts to be bayted, as also mastives in several kenels, nourished to bayt them. These beares and other beasts are there kept in plots of ground scaffolded about for the beholders to stand safe."—Queen Elizabeth caused the French ambassadors to be carried to this theatre, to divert them with these bloody spectacles.

.....
British Navigation and Settlements: the Earth more habitable than the Ancients believed it to be.

The ancients had a most diminutive notion of the kindness of nature, and the accommodating powers of man. They held that the central parts of Africa were uninhabitable, because of their insupportable heat; yet Mr. Jackson has lately given us reasons to believe that the very empire of China is not more populous than the banks of the interior Nile, and the lake into which it passes. The heights of the mountains, too, in this sultry climate, are cool, and the inhabitants of the ardent plains attribute almost all their disorders to having "taken cold," at a degree of heat scarcely tolerable to Europeans. Such is the torrid zone. But the ancients were no less ill-informed respecting the population of the North. It was of countries on the southern shore of the Baltic (or, probably, not so far north), that they reported, as Herodotus informs us, that "they could not be passed, neither yet discerned by the eye, by reason of the feathers which are continually falling; with these both the earth and air are so filled, that the view is effectually obstructed." In another passage that author explains these *feathers*, as being, in his opinion, snow: but this, he says, falls as well in summer as in winter, though in smaller quantities; these regions, therefore, are uninhabitable from the unremitting severity of the climate. Modern times, however, know well, that not only the severity of the climate remits, but that the sun has sufficient power, aided by favourable circumstances, to set on fire the woods, and to produce extensive conflagrations, which spread from the dryness, or the parchedness, of every thing around. Such is the polar extreme of our globe.

What would Herodotus have thought, or what credence would his countrymen have bestowed on him, had he described to them a nation which visited the most torrid regions of the globe, in spite of their heats,—to procure materials for food and clothing; and regions incredibly further north than those which he deemed impassable, in search of oil to be burned in the lamps—the *glass lamps*, which they placed by thousands to enlighten their streets every night. They would have deemed this wonder of all wonders the most wonderful; and would have forbade the reading of such incredibilities to their youth, lest they should have corrupted their morals and their fancies, by stating the thing that is not.

.....
Imperfections of Language, and Difficulty of communicating new Ideas.

What shall we assign as the origin of language, by which things daily before the eyes of the speakers are to be described?—This ques-

tion, at first sight simple enough, has baffled, and will continue to baffle, the ingenuity of the learned; for, what natural power is there in the letters E, G, O, to denote an *egg*, rather than in the letters F, I, S, H, that could determine the *first* choice of a certain sound to describe a certain object, and no other? But if this be a difficulty in relation to objects under daily observation, and actually present, what shall we say to the still greater difficulty of describing by words to an auditor a subject which that auditor never saw! or any thing allied to it, in nature and appearance, and of which, consequently, he can form no conception? When Mahine, a native of the Society Islands, was taken by Captain Cook, on board the *Resolution*, to the high southern latitudes which that intrepid navigator explored, he expressed in strong terms the sense he entertained of the difficulty which he should experience in endeavouring to describe to his countrymen what he had beheld. How could he enable them to conceive of falling rain of a stony hardness? (hail) that, he said, he would call *white stones*; for how could they understand *stone-rain*? Snow he would call *white rain*, for it was not *stone-rain*; ice he would call *white land*; for it was not water, since it was solid, and could be walked upon. He should also have to recount the wonder of *perpetual day*: how could he expect belief among his hearers, who saw the sun set daily, when he told them that it never set where he had been; while in this very country, perpetually exposed to the solar rays, rain was a stone, water was a solid block, and showers were white and hard, not transparent and liquid as water.

.....
Custom-House Produce, London, 1263.— About the year 1559, the loss to the revenue, by collecting it in different parts of the city, being discovered, an act passed to compel people to land their goods in such places as were appointed by the commissioners of the revenue; a custom-house was erected, which, being destroyed by the great fire, was rebuilt by Charles II. Before the custom-house was established here, the principal place for receiving the duties was at Billingsgate. In 1268, the half year's customs, for foreign merchandize in the city of London, was 75l. 6s 10d.; the annual produce of the customs, in the same port, is now almost fifty thousand times that sum.

.....
Richard Nevil, the great Earl of Warwick.

Stow mentions his coming to London in the famous convention of 1458, "with 600 men, all in red jackets imbrodered, with ragged staves, before and behind, and was lodged in Warwick-lane; in whose house there was often six oxen eaten at breakfast, and every taverne was full of his meate, for hee that

had any acquaintance in that house, might have there so much of sodden and rost meate, as he could pricke and carry upon a long dagger."

.....
Jane Shore.

Before Paul's Cross, in 1483, was brought, divested of all her splendour, Jane Shore, the charitable, the merry concubine of Edward IV. and, after his death, of his favourite, the unfortunate Lord Hastings. After the loss of her protectors, she fell a victim to the malice of crook-backed Richard. He was disappointed (by her excellent defence) of convicting her of witchcraft, and confederating with her lover to destroy him. He then attacked her on the weak side of frailty. This was undeniable. He consigned her to the severity of the church: she was carried to the bishop's palace, clothed in a white sheet, with a taper in her hand, and from thence conducted to the cathedral, and the cross, before which she made a confession of her only fault. Every other virtue bloomed in this ill-fated fair with the fullest vigour. She could not resist the solicitations of a youthful monarch, the handsomest man of his time. On his death, she was reduced to necessity, scorned by the world, and cast off by her husband, with whom she was paired in her childish years, and forced to fling herself into the arms of Hastings. "In her penance she went," says Holinshed, "in countenance and pase demure, so womanlie, that, albeit she were out of all aerie, save hir kirtle onlie, yet went she so faire and lovelie, namele, while the woondering of the people cast a comelie rud in hir cheeks, (of whiche she before had most misse) that hir greateshame wan hir much praise among those that were more amorous of hir bodie than curious of hir soule. And manie good folkes that bated hir living, (and glad were to see sin corrected) yet pitied they more hir penance, than rejoiced therein, when they considered that the Protector procured it more of a corrupt intent, than anie virtuous affection."

The tale of her being denied all sustenance, and of her perishing with hunger, was not fact. She lived to a great age, but in great distress and miserable poverty; deserted even by those to whom she had, during prosperity, done the most essential services. She dragged a wretched life, even to the time of Sir Thomas More, who introduces her story into his life of Edward V. The beauty of her person is spoken of in high terms: "Proper she was, and faire: nothing in hir bodie that you would have changed; but you would have wished her somewhat higher."

.....
Four Kings entertained by the Lord Mayor of London.

Sir Henry Picard, vintner, lord mayor in 1356, in one day, did sumptuously feast Edward king of England, John king of France, the king of Cipres (then arrived in England), David king of Scots, Edward prince of Wales, with many noblemen, and others: and after, the sayd Henry Picard kept his hall against all comers whosoever, that were willing to play at dice and hazard. In like manner the lady Margaret his wife, did also keepe her chamber to the same intent. The king of Cipres, playing with Henry Picard, in his hall, did winne of him fifty markes; but Henry, beeing very skiltull in that art, altering his hand, did after winne of the same king the same fifty markes, and fifty markes more; which when the same king began to take in ill part, although hee dissembled the same, Henry said unto him, "my lord and king, be not agreeded, I court not your gold, but your play, for I have not bidd you hither that I might grieue you, but that amongst other things I might see your play;" and gave him his money againe, plentifully bestowing of his owne amongst the retinue.

ON THE MOTION OF LIQUIDS IN TREES :
AND ITS ANALOGY IN ANIMALS.

The following observations on the structure of the bark of trees, are by the same ingenious lady, Mrs. Ibbetson, who favoured the public with remarks on the supposed perspiration of plants, extracts from which with additional hints, we gave in Vol. VI. p. 1139.

"The bark is generally green, the inner bark white, yellow, or green. The former consists of vessels crossing each other; the latter of bundles of vessels of two sizes, the large ones being formed in a very peculiar manner. They consist of broad cylinders, having a bottom with a hole in it, through which the liquid passes, though not with perfect ease. On exposing several pieces of the inner bark to the solar microscope, the moment I turned the light on the specimen, the juice of which had before proceeded up the pipes rather slowly, it was suddenly propelled forward with a force truly astonishing. When I increased the heat and light by pointing the full focus of the rays on the vessels, the power of the heat was too strong, and broke through the side divisions, inundating the specimen: but when I merely kept up a proper degree of light and heat, it was curious to observe the liquid pass from pipe to pipe, in one regular and easy flow; making a little stop as it issued through the straitened apertures at the bottom of the vessels. I have often stood more than an hour watching the current, (which passed however much slower

than the sap does) nor could I perceive, that it required (while the heat and light were on it) any additional expedient to hasten it; but in the night, when both are wanting, the pressure Mr. Knight mentions from the bastard grain is (I should suppose) very likely to assist or quicken its flow; and as at night it is pressed against the cylinders, it is at this time (I should conceive) it would have its effect.

If much magnified, and cut longitudinally, it is truly wonderful to see the effect of light and heat on the wood vessels; how immediately on turning the light on the glass, the flow of sap is accelerated, and with what perfect ease it runs up vessels so diminutive, that to measure them is almost impossible. Is it not most wonderful to consider the force necessary to carry up this sap, when the vessels are formed of a substance *so thin, so transparent*, that it would appear impossible to confine a liquid within it; and yet that, without being worn out by friction, it will bear this force exerted against it, for eighty years together, without showing any signs of decay, a term which many trees will sustain? This indeed proclaims its author, and should make the atheist fall down and worship."

We beg leave to add our suspicion that had Mrs. Ibbetson been acquainted with anatomy she would have found a similitude between these "straitened apertures" through which the circulating liquid flowed with difficulty, and those contractions in the course of the arteries which anatomists call *valves*. The intention of these in the human body appears to be, to prevent the reflux of blood, which would not only cause a stagnation, but even an overflow. If the human body which assumes various inclinations needs this preservative, a tree, which is erect, must more greatly need it. We therefore submit the question, whether these "straitened apertures" do not answer the purpose we have hinted at? to the inquiries of physiologists. We should suppose also, that pressure of the parts by night, would act as a kind of constriction to prevent the descent of the liquid; in the perpendicular pipes, especially; but, in all, to prevent the retardation and revulsion of that which had already proceeded according to the course and order of nature.

The effect of light and heat in stimulating and promoting the actions of the fluids, &c. may afford support to the theory of the effect of cold on animals that annually sleep: and indeed, on our nightly slumbers; for the coolness of night is unquestionably favourable to our repose.

The subject appears to us interesting; and we willingly allude to analogies which we may without offence conjecture have not occurred to this ingenious lady.

SUBSTITUTE FOR PERUVIAN BARK, THE PRODUCE OF OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Early in the course of our work * we were favoured by Ferdinand Smyth Stuart, M. D. with a history of the cure of a case of consumption, by the eating of currants; to that we refer our readers in proof of the writer's ingenuity. We have now to report, that the same gentleman has discovered a remedy, which experience has proved to be a substitute for the Peruvian Bark, in the cases in which that medicine has hitherto been administered. He deems it also efficacious in scorbutic cases; so that those prevalent disorders among our population, the ague with its concomitants, and the scurvy, with its malignant affections, it may now be hoped, will be counteracted by a remedy the basis of which is abundant in our own country, and may be administered at one fourth part of the cost of the Bark, not including that of the wine, with which that medicine should be combined; an expence which in many instances has prevented many even of the middling classes from receiving benefit from it, and has almost totally debarred the lower classes from its use.

To judge of the importance of this discovery, it should be recollected, that the amount of the Bark annually imported into this country is about £800,000; of which to the value of £400,000 is purchased by government, for the use of the army and navy: the remainder is consumed, in the nation, or exported to the continent of Europe. If the difference of value between these two articles were calculated, for ten years only, what an immense sum of money (several millions) would the adoption of it have saved to the nation!

When reporting on the Gas Lights, not long ago, we hinted that † Mr. Winsor was *not* the author of that advertisement which stated the want of "Ten Thousand Pounds" for the establishment of a concern that would produce from £10,000 to 20,000 per annum. We learn that Dr. F. Smyth Stuart inserted that address; and that he has had upwards of £120,000 offered to support his undertaking.

It is thought that the powers on the continent would purchase this secret, were it for sale, at great prices; as no less than *ten* processes are now in operation, in France alone, to obtain a substitute for Peruvian bark.

For ourselves, we rejoice in every discovery by which the sufferings of humanity may be alleviated; especially on this, on which Voltaire vented his sarcasm against Providence, "that it was a pity the ague and fever were found in one country; and the *quinquina* in another, distant half across the globe."

* Pan. Vol. I. p. 573. — † Pan. Vol. VI. p. 895.

SEA-ANIMALS, REPTILES, MAMMOTHS.

A very remarkable species of animals is that gelatinous class to which Linnæus gave the name of *Medusa*. They are more numerous than have hitherto been supposed, and the peculiarities of their structure have lately been well expressed (to the French National Institute) by M. Péron, who collected a great number in his voyage to the south, and has increased this family to more than a hundred and fifty species. The following is his account of their singularities. "Their substance seems to be merely a coagulated water, yet the most important functions of life are exercised in it. Their multiplication is prodigious, yet we know nothing of the peculiar mode in which it is effected. They are capable of attaining several feet in diameter, and fifty or sixty pounds in weight, yet their nutritive system escapes our eyes. They execute the most rapid and long continued movements, yet the details of their muscular system are imperceptible. They have a very active species of respiration, the true seat of which is a mystery. They appear extremely feeble, yet fish of considerable size form their daily prey, and dissolve in a few moments in their stomach. Many species of them shine amid the darkness of night like balls of fire: and sometimes benumb the hand that touches them: yet the principles and agents of both these properties remain to be discovered."

All the Medusas have a gelatinous body, nearly resembling the cap of a mushroom, which Mr. P., after the example of Spallanzani, names *umbrella*; but they differ in wanting or in having a mouth; in the mouth being simple or multiplicitous; in the presence or absence of a production resembling a pedicle; and in the edges of this pedicle, or of the mouth itself, being furnished with tentacula, or filaments more or less numerous. From these characters Mr. P. forms divisions and subdivisions, under which every possible kind of *Medusa* may be arranged. Some of these animals exhibit beautiful colours.

To this examination of their external characters, Mr. P. has added very interesting remarks on the interior structure of these animals; and in particular of that genus, which Mr. Cuvier named *rhizostome*, because he supposed, that the filaments bordering its tentacula were so many *suckers*; and that the nourishment drawn in by them was received into a central cavity, whence it was distributed to the whole body by an infinite number of vessels disposed with great regularity, and particularly numerous about the edges of the *umbrella*. The four apertures at the sides of the base of the

pedicle appeared to Mr. Cuvier to be the organs of respiration. Mr. P. on the contrary, having seen many living *rhizostomes* take in small animals by these four apertures, and digest them in the four cavities to which they lead, presumes that they are four mouths, and as many stomachs; while the great vascular apparatus, that fills the pedicle and the borders of the *umbrella*, is more probably appropriated to respiration, as it is almost always found full of air.

Fossil Reptiles.

To the same Society, at one of its sittings, M. Cuvier read a paper on certain reptiles, the skeletons of which are found in the strata of our globe. These had all been taken for crocodiles, and even for the species common in the Ganges, the *gavial*; but the *lacerta monitor* is also among them, and those that most resemble the *gavial* have striking characteristics which distinguish them. All of them are found in strata much deeper, and consequently more ancient, than those that contain bones of land quadrupeds. The environs of Maestricht conceal the bones of a large animal of this family, which some have taken for a crocodile, others for a fish. Mr. C. attempted to show, that this also was a *lacerta monitor*, but it is the giant of its kind. It measures in length upward of 26 feet. Its tail, much shorter in proportion, but broader, than that of other species, formed a powerful oar; and every thing renders it probable, that it had sufficient strength, and was so good a swimmer, as to live amid the waves of the ocean. Its bones too are found with those of large sea turtle, and among thousands of sea shells.

Mammoths.

Mr. Jefferson, President of the United States, has sent the class a fine collection of fossil bones dug up on the banks of the Ohio. The greater number belong to the large animal improperly called mammoth by the Americans, and to which M. Cuvier has given the name of *Mastodonte*: but there are likewise some belonging to the true Mammoth of the Russians, or the other large animal, much resembling the Indian elephant, the remains of which are so common in Siberia. These two gigantic creatures therefore formerly inhabited together all the northern parts of our globe. The destruction of these enormous races, and of so many others, victims of the same catastrophe, cannot be explained, till we are well acquainted with the strata in which they are buried, as well as their nature and succession.

The skeleton of a Mammoth in high preservation (being the second) was lately found on the coast of the White Sea, at the mouth of the river Tana.

OBSERVANDA EXTERNA.

AFRICA.

Sierra Leone.—New Town founded.

April 10, 1809.—The governor and council, with a party of the militia and a numerous body of the inhabitants, proceeded to the banks of a stream, known from the number of wild boars in its neighbourhood by the title of the Hog-Brook, and laid the first stone of a town or settlement to be in that place established under the name of Kingston in Africa.

The situation fixed upon, to which a road has already been cut, is about five miles from the present settlement, directly inland, and appears to be favourable for a settlement on account of the quality of the land in its neighbourhood; its circumstances, with respect to water, being an angle formed by the largest stream of fresh water known to exist within the colony, and the apparent impossibility of conducting an invading force thither without great loss.

A number of natives of Africa, principally Bambarans, who were employed in cutting the road, having built houses and collected a number of live stock at the foot of Leicester mountain, about half way between the old and new settlements, they have been encouraged to establish themselves in the position they have chosen, which, from its situation, has received the name of Leicester. Many of the former inhabitants of the colony, naturally fond of being covered by an out-post, have in consequence returned to the cultivation of their farms, which had been in a great measure abandoned since the attack of the natives in 1802.

Slave Trade.

On the 5th of this month, the natives of Africa sold within this colony were claimed in the name of the King, for the purpose of instituting a prosecution, under the abolition act, against the sellers on the arrival of the judge of the court of vice-admiralty.

Introduction of Dromedaries;—Oxen.

Information has been received from Goree, that a male and female dromedary with a young one have been procured from the main land opposite to the island, and are now in readiness to be transported to this colony by the first conveyance. For this service the colony is indebted to John Huddle, Esq. surgeon to the forces at Goree. Although the dromedary may not be found to be suited to the present cultivated districts of this colony, the possession of this animal may hereafter prove of incalculable utility in the promotion of the knowledge and commerce of the interior. At the same time the possibility of introducing the ox as a beast of burthen continues to be kept in view, from a per-

suasion that in the absence of the dromedary the ox may be usefully employed in Africa for the purposes of commercial communication with the interior.—The success which has attended the introduction of oxen into the public works has sufficiently demonstrated the practicability of this important economical improvement.

A number of horses has lately been imported from Goree and its neighbourhood.

Miniature Blockade, à la Buonaparte:—Certificates of Property.

A few weeks since, some of the natives in the neighbourhood of this colony in displeasure at the high prices of European goods determined to lay an embargo on their ports, and by way of enforcing it dispatched a fleet of ten canoes to lie off Leopard's island for the purpose of intercepting any of their canoes that should break the order. The African admiral, in all probability exceeding his orders, seized on a boat belonging to an inhabitant of this colony, and after plundering and plentifully beating the owner, dispatched him home to say, "that he was come to stop all boats, except they were going to the governor's," in which case, if the governor would pass his word that they were his, the boats should be allowed to pass.

African Military School.

Some progress has been made in the establishment of a school of cadets, in which it is proposed to educate a number of African boys who may hereafter form the officers of an African army, and one of the schoolmasters sent out by the British government has been appropriated to that purpose. It is proposed that the cadets shall receive the uniforms given to the militia and a daily ration, that they shall be instructed in reading and writing, and in progress of time in mathematics, the Arabic language, and English literature, and that they shall be in every possible manner trained to the habits of obedience and discipline.

A barrack in Fort Thornton has been appropriated to the use of the cadets, and, in addition to the schoolmaster, an experienced serjeant of the royal African corps has been appointed to their superintendence.

Artillery.

Two pieces of artillery on travelling carriages are nearly completed. The difficulty of making wheels having been at length surmounted, the colony will probably have the advantage of the employment of carriages for domestic as well as for military purposes.

The haven, being in need of repair, is at present undergoing considerable alteration at Sierra Leone. It is expected, that it will be found practicable to extend it to nearly four times the original size.

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Extracts from the Journal of a Missionary,
from October 1807, to January 1808.

[Published by the Society for Missions to
 Africa and the East.]

Oct. 15th, I left Sierra Leone, and sailed
 in a company's ship for the Rio Pongas.

Oct. 18th, about ten o'clock in the even-
 ing, I came to Fantimani's place, and was
 very affectionately received by him and his
 people.

Mode of obtaining a Settlement, in Africa :
no Freeholds in Land.

Oct. 20th. I asked Fantimani, if there
 was no place to be bought here on which we
 could establish our settlement. He answered
 as follows : " The chiefs of this country sell
 no land ; but, when a white person wishes to
 live here, he may choose a place, in such a
 situation as pleases him best. He then ap-
 points a day, on which he invites the chiefs
 from all the adjacent towns and villages, to
 repair to the plot of ground which he has
 chosen. When the chiefs come together, the
 white must kill an ox, and divide it amongst
 them : together with this he must give each
 of the chiefs a certain portion of gunpowder,
 tobacco, and rum. These expenses together
 may amount to about 90 dollars ; and the
 inhabitants call this a *Dantika*. When the
 white has paid this, the chiefs give him pos-
 session of the ground ; to live there as long as
 he pleases, and to do with the place what he
 will. If, after awhile, he chooses to leave,
 he may then sell the place which he has built
 on the ground, but not the [ground] itself." I
 asked Fantimani farther, if I could not im-
 mediately pay such a *Dantika*, for me and
 my brethren : or, if it was necessary, that
 each should pay it ? he answered, that I
 might immediately pay a *Dantika*, and then
 the place would belong to me ; but, when
 my brethren were come, each of them must
 do the same. He, therefore, thought it ad-
 visable that I should wait until my brethren
 came, and then we might give a *Dantika* to-
 gether, which would not cost much more than
 what I must pay for myself alone.

Oct. 31st. To-day I visited Mongè Packe,
 who has here the supreme authority. He
 resides two miles from hence, quite in the
 woods, like a hermit : his house is not large,
 but yet it looks clean inside. Fantimani was
 my interpreter. I said to Mongè Packe, that
 I, and perhaps three other persons, would
 come into his country, and wished to live
 there ; not to trade in slaves, but in such ar-
 ticles as we might please, and which would
 contribute, by their proceeds, to supply us
 with necessities. A principal object with us,
 likewise, was the attainment of the Susoo
 language, that we might be able, in time, to

instruct the children in the European man-
 ner. He shewed his satisfaction, and said,
 we might live uninterrupted in his country.
 —It appears, ridiculous to some, and
 to others very strange and almost inconceiv-
 able, that we should learn the Susoo, and
 instruct the people after the English manner :
 but some of them acknowledge that it would
 be of advantage to have their children in-
 structed, and manifest joy at our arrival.

Female Sex untought.

The female sex here are not brought up to
 a variety of occupations. In a hundred we
 scarcely find one who can sew : this they
 leave to the male sex. Fantimani said lately,
 he wished that we would bring women with
 us too, who could not but be very useful to
 their own sex as examples. I said, I was
 entirely of the same opinion ; but we men
 must first be convinced that we can live in
 this country in safety, and then it may be
 advisable to bring European women.

Slave Dealers unprosperous.

Many slave-dealers have dissipated the little
 property which they brought with them into
 this country. Indeed, most of them die in
 debt, and often leave children in their mi-
 nority, the offspring of illicit connections,
 who then are brought up as heathens, having
 no opportunity of acquiring any other edu-
 cation.

Offering and Prayer, Mode of.

Nov. 14th. To-day Fantimani made an
 offering. I was astonished at the superstition
 which he manifested. In this offering he
 took two goats' horns, and laid them in a tin
 dish, went down on his knees before them,
 laid his hands on the goats' horns, and spake
 with himself. I was gone out a little before,
 and came home during the ceremony. I
 asked him what he was about. He replied,
 " I pray to God, and make an offering for
 one of my people, who lies sick some miles
 from hence."

Religious Sect and Seclusion ; Free-Mason- like Secrecy maintained inviolate.

Dec. 10th. Five of Fantimani's people ran
 away to the Seema.

The Seema are a kind of sect, of which the
 chiefs of the countries are commonly the
 leaders. Usually, in the month of October
 (but yet not every year, sometimes one or
 two years a e passed over), some leader of
 this sect collects some young people (but only
 of the male sex), and gives them many holi-
 days, on which they dance and jump : he
 likewise entertains them with rice, and some-
 times kills an ox for them, which must very
 naturally please these young people. During
 these holidays, they sometimes go into their
 villages, dance and jump there, and by these
 means endeavour to enlist more people ; and,

as I hear, more than two hundred young people are gone to the Seema, out of this country, in this year.

What the Seema properly is, no one knows except those who have formerly belonged to them. Some presume that it is a kind of food, which is given to the new members to eat; but this, as I have said before, is only supposition. As soon as the Seenia is formed, these fresh men are conducted by their leaders into the woods; which happened, as I hear, a few days ago. There they must remain three months. Food is provided for them there usually by their parents or masters: no other person is allowed to bring it to them, but one of those who have formerly been with them; none other being suffered to approach them. Should it happen, that during their abode in the wood they should see a woman, she would instantly be killed. Should a man approach them, he must either pay them well, or he would be beat by them most pitilessly. After a lapse of three months, they sometimes leave the woods, and travel from one village to another. But they are obliged to make a great noise on the road with their drums, to warn the travellers that they may get out of the way. The like rule they must also observe when they go through a village, that the inhabitants may be able to creep into their houses before they come: for this wandering sect has no liberty to enter the houses. But should any one be seen by them, either on the road, or out of the village, they use him very hardly, especially if it is a woman. They only are free, who have formerly belonged to the Seema. But the whites they would not dare to use ill, as they know beforehand that they cannot be acquainted with the custom of the country. A little time before the rainy season, this wandering sect separate, and each of them returns to his own house. After their return, they do not speak for some weeks with the female sex, and are very temperate in eating, and wash themselves often in the day.

Fantimani told me, that his master, in whose employ he was more than twenty years, once bought a slave, who had been formerly amongst the Seema sect. His master promised him instantly his liberty, if he would tell him really what Seema was, and what he had done in the woods: but the slave, however desirous he might be of his liberty, would not discover this secret to his master. At last the slave was taken away in a boat for sale. His master again asked him, "Wilt thou tell me what this Seema is, and what thou hast done in the woods? Thou shalt then not be sold, but from this moment have thy liberty." The slave replied: "Master, I now see that I shall be sold to a foreign country, and I have a great desire to be free; and I am fully convinced that you would give me

my liberty, if I would tell you what Seema is, and what I have done in the woods: but I neither can nor dare tell you." This poor slave, therefore, suffered himself rather to be sold, than to discover the secret.

Mongè Packe was the principal of this Seema sect, who, together with the other chiefs of the country, endeavour to propagate this evil custom.

Female religious Sect and Seclusion.

The female sex has likewise a kind of Seema sect among themselves; but which is not near so rigid as that amongst the men. When a person joins this sect, she must be circumcised by one of those belonging to the sect. She must likewise, as I hear, make a certain Seema; and seclude herself for a time, either in the wood or in a meadow, where she must be circumcised, and where no man approaches. This Seema is not performed every year; sometimes five or six years pass over. Many of the inhabitants are fixed in the opinion, that a person who has been amongst this Seema sect, cannot be unfaithful to her husband; on which account a man has no objection when some of his wives join the Seema.

Danger from Wild Animals. Leopard killed.

April 6th. Before day break Brother Renner heard a noise near our goat-house. He immediately took a light and his gun, went down stairs, and with horror saw a leopard, which was endeavouring to get at a goat, and was so bold, that he was not frightened from his purpose, either by the light or by the coming of Br. Renner, but ran at him. His gun being loaded only with small shot, he had it not in his power to kill the leopard: he therefore retreated slowly; for the leopards usually follow their pursuers fiercely, if not mortally wounded. As Br. Renner returned, the leopard quitted his position, and went to the house which we had given to Wm. Fantimani, for himself and his wives to inhabit: he there pushed the door open and went in. The women immediately heard his fierce snorting, and began to cry out. At last the leopard set off to the woods, without having done any material injury; excepting that one of our goats was a little wounded by him, and one of our dogs was so much hurt, that he scarcely escaped with life. In the afternoon the leopard came again, pretty near to our house. We immediately endeavoured to follow him: Br. Renner shot at him, but missed his aim. We supposed that this leopard must be very hungry, or he would not have dared to come so near the houses in the day-time. The inhabitants here are very much afraid of a leopard, as they have been known to attack men, when impelled by hunger.

April 7th. Last night we and several of our people watched for the leopard. The leopard came before midnight, and attacked one of our dogs which lay at Br. Prasse's feet: the dog set up a frightful howl, at which we all took the alarm. Wm. Fantimani and Br. Prasse fired at the same time; on which he left hold of the dog, and ran away wounded. Soon after, some of the Susoos came out of the neighbouring town to watch with us: one of these, who walked round about our houses where he saw the leopard, fired at him and hit him, so that he fell and gave a roar. Immediately every one ran together, and such as had guns fired at him, until he was quite dead. The satisfaction evident amongst the brethren and the Susoos was very great, that this devouring animal was now destroyed. He was full four feet long, and two feet high: his skin is very beautiful.

Funeral Repast for the Dead.

April 25th. They held a *Kolingi* in the town, to which many people out of the neighbouring towns and villages are usually invited. A *kolingi* is a kind of feast in memory of some person deceased, held by the next of kin. On such occasions a great quantity of gurgibere (a wine prepared from roots), honey wine, and palm wine, is prepared, which is given to the guests, and by which the natives sometimes get very much intoxicated. For adult persons, three such *kolings* are usually held; but none for children.

AMERICA, SOUTH.

Statistical Account of Mexico.—In the third part of their travels, consisting of a Statistical Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain, Messrs. von Humboldt and Bonpland estimate the present population of Mexico at more than six millions. They likewise give the following comparative table of births and deaths in various parts of the world.

	Births.	Deaths.
In France	110	100
In England	120	100
In Sweden	130	100
In Finland	160	100
In the Russian Empire	166	100
In Western Prussia	180	100
In the government of Tobolsk ..	210	100
In several parts of the high plains of Mexico	230	100
In the state of New Jersey, North America	300	100

Famine, however, not unfrequently interferes to check the population of Mexico. In 1784, no less than 300,000 died for want. The mortality among the miners does not appear to be greater than in other classes. The heat of most of these mines is very considerable. At the bottom of that of Valenciana, at the depth of 500 yards, the centigrade ther-

mometer was at 93° 2' Fahr., while in the open air, in winter, it is only from 39° 2' to 41° F.

* * Allusion was made in our last volume to these observations of Messrs. von Humboldt and Bonpland, which want of room obliged us then to defer;— our readers are therefore requested to refer to page 1135, of Vol. VI. to the article entitled, *On the Climate of Russia*.

BOHEMIA.

Extensive Conflagration.—Egra, 13th June. The following are the particulars of the conflagration which took place in this city, on the night between the 6th and 7th instant, and which in less than an hour spread its destructive ravages throughout the town. La Place St. Jean, with the exception of a few houses, totally destroyed; the Vorbourg, and the streets called Dumoulin, Amency, St. Nicholas, the Fluth, the Steingasse, the whole of the Schifgasse, as far as the Dominican Convent, and a part of the street called Hinterderschulen; all the streets just mentioned form one complete heap of ruins. The roof, together with the two towers, and the organ of the beautiful church of St. Nicholas, was entirely burnt; and the bells melted. The churches of St. John and St. Michael, the commandery of the Teutonic Order, the hospital, the Asylum for Orphans, the military ovens, the barracks for the recruits, the military hospital, and three of the city gates, fell a prey to the flames; and although eight days are elapsed since this terrible accident occurred, the flames are still perceived, from time to time, rising from the midst of the ruins. One hundred and twenty-six houses have been entirely burnt; and five hundred families are reduced to beggary.—The fire was so excessively rapid and fierce, that it was totally impracticable to save any thing.

CHINA.

*Chinese Chop.**—Translation of the chop, which the Isontoc of Canton addressed to the senior commander, captains, officers, petty-officers, and others, belonging to the English ships at the port of Whampoa, and which was delivered to the said senior commander, Captain Miliken Craig, of the Elphinstone, by the Mandarin deputed by the Isontoc, under a canopy of state, surrounded by Chinese guards, under arms, erected for the occasion, on French island, on the side of a hill, having a Chinese camp on each side, on hills, each about one mile distant, and all in view from the van ships

* The name of any Chinese official document.

of the Honourable Company's fleet, moored in line of battle, within gun-shot of the camps. Other camps were also in sight from the fleet, on the hills of more distant islands. Each camp was attended by a regular establishment of long covered boats, for transporting the troops with their tents, baggage, guns, ammunition, officers, horses, &c. &c. from one island to another, at once. The country ships were moved down the river, clear of the Company's ships.*

"I, the Mandarin Vic, by favour of my Prince, Isontoc of the two provinces of Quang-tong and Quang-si, Member of the Tribunal of War, &c. direct this letter to the captains, officers, passengers, and others belonging to the English ships, to warn you, that being certain that your bad kingdom is situated on an island of the sea, and that you originally employed yourselves in making watches to enable you to pay your taxes; afterwards, by the special and profound goodness of our great emperor, who was desirous of benefiting you, he granted you permission to come to this empire to trade. Behold what exalted and profound virtues belong to him!!! Notwithstanding this, the admiral of your kingdom, regardless of the laws, has brought here, for the first time, foreign soldiers, and without leave, introduced them into Macao; and your chief supra-cargo uniting with him, they are, with one accord, making disturbances. This being the case, I informed the emperor, from whom I have just received a decree, in virtue of which I again send Mandarins deputed to inform them, that if they persist in detaining the soldiers, a great many troops shall be immediately dispatched to destroy and extinguish them, and to terminate this affair; for the consequences of which, the admiral and chief supra-cargo will be responsible. But you, captains, officers, passengers, and other people of the ships, shall be free from all responsibility, if you remain quietly in the observance of the laws; and after the soldiers of your nation shall be entirely withdrawn, I shall feel it my duty to inform the emperor, praying him to have the goodness to permit you to carry on your trade as formerly. But if you, giving ear to, and obeying the admiral and chief supra-cargo, unite yourselves to them to create disturbances, when afterwards our innumerable soldiers shall arrive, who shall destroy and burn, even if you are as hard as stone or jasper; I shall then be unable to use you with any indulgence, or to free you from the net of the law in which you will be ensnared. And in order that you may be obedient and discreet, I direct this chop to you.

"In the 15th year of the Emperor Kia

* The British property at stake, was, in toto, upwards of ten millions sterling.

King, on the 17th day of the 10th moon (3d December 1808)."

Mem.—Received on the 4th December, 1808, from the hands of the Mandarins delegated by the Isontoc, who were the military brigadier Mandarin Chang, and the Quangchou-foo (Governor of the city of Canton) Fu.

Answer.

To his Excellency the Viceroy of the Provinces of Quang-tong and Quang-si, in the Chinese Empire.—"May it please your Excellency.—We, the undersigned commanders of the Honourable English East-India Company's ships at Whampoa, for ourselves, our officers, and our own men, have the exalted honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's most gracious letter, delivered to us in French island on the 4th December, 1808, by the two Mandarins, whom we are informed it was your condescending pleasure to send for that purpose. Our object of visiting this country is purely for commercial purposes, to continue in the same manner that friendly and usual intercourse which has existed for centuries, and now become, from its magnitude, of the very first importance to both our vast empires.—We are taught in our own country, that obedience to our laws is the first essential to the well-being of the state; the same must apply to all countries; and we are therefore ordered, and endeavour to venerate and obey yours: but such is the nature of our own laws and constitution, that we dare not, even in a foreign country, depart from allegiance to our own country, nor to those who are dignified with its most exalted representation.—We understand that our admiral, who is an officer of high rank, at the request of the Portuguese, landed some troops at Macao, to help them to defend it against attacks from the French. That wicked nation, ever since they murdered their sovereign, have waged war upon all nations within their reach, and, we understand, are now marching, by land, to make war upon the celestial empire, as the British navy prevents them by sea.—We, of course, wish to have no concern with any disturbances in the celestial empire, and we therefore most humbly implore your excellency to order the trade to be opened, that we may find employment in the quiet habits of industry, which we conceive would prevent our services being required for other purposes, but which, if called for, our laws and our honour would compel us to obey whatever might be the consequences.—With sentiments of the most profound veneration, and prayers for your Excellency's welfare and happiness, we beg leave to subscribe our names.—[Here follow fourteen signatures.]

*Honourable Company's ship Elphinstone,
Whampoa, Dec. 7, 1808."*

Chinese Mandarin's Reply.

"I, Isontoc, &c. in reply to your letter, have to inform you, that I first thought that you, like your merchants, came to carry on trade, and that you would not have joined with your superiors, I mean the admiral and chief, to create disorders. Under this idea I sent you a chop. But seeing now that you do not think proper to alter your way of thinking, using as a pretence the protection of the Portuguese, I plainly know that you have joined your opinions with those of the above superiors, remaining in the same vain hope. I, the Isontoc, have repeatedly sent my chops, declaring, that as long as there remained a single soldier at Macao, and you would not obey my orders, I absolutely will not consent to your continuing to carry on your trade. If you do not wish to trade, you may take away your ships as you think proper; but if you are desirous of pursuing your mercantile negotiations, it is necessary to remain peaceable, and to obey the laws, relying, with certainty, that after your troops shall have entirely evacuated Macao, your trade shall be granted you as formerly. As your letter declares that you must, of course, obey the laws of the imperial dynasty, this shews that you have respect and veneration for them; therefore, I have directed to you this chop, with all the efficacy possible, to open yet a way for you; but after this dispatch, if your admiral and you all will not change your sentiments, and if you send any more letters, I have given orders that they shall not be received.

"In the 13th year of Kia King, 21st day of the 10th moon (7th Dec. 1808.)

FRANCE.

Preservation of Egyptian Mummies.—Grenoble, 18th June.—There are two Egyptian mummies in the museum of this city, they are in high preservation. One of them is inclosed in a sycamore case, handsomely ornamented with figures, descriptive of the ancient Egyptian worship. It is thought, from its appearance, and from its being so extremely costly, that the body contained in it must have been some grand personage of his time. When we consider that this corpse was once animated, perhaps, at the distance of three thousand years back, and that it now reposes at so many thousand miles distance from the place where it once breathed, the imagination loses itself in a crowd of reflexions which occur to the reflecting mind!

Vaccination a Preliminary to Instruction.—Thoulouse, 22d June.—The prefect has just re-organised the vaccine committee: among other regulations, there appears the following strikingly singular one:—"That, from the 1st July next, no pupil shall be capable of being admitted into any public esta-

blishment in this department, unless he shall produce a certificate, evincing "that he has been vaccinated, or had taken the small-pox naturally."

Antiquities at Dijon.—24th June.—Whenever any of the old edifices of Dijon have been under repair, or any part of its walls (the construction of which is attributed to Aurelian) have been examined, there has always been found among the heaps of rubbish some remarkable testimony of their antiquity, by the pieces of sculpture discovered. In clearing away one of the thirty-three towers which once formed the inclosure of Dijon, the proprietor of a house in the rue Madeleine, discovered some friezes and architraves, which by their antiquity, and the good taste displayed in the workmanship, merit the attention of the artist, as well as of the antiquarian. Some of these friezes represent children, which are extremely well designed; others contain emblems, such as an oval mirror, an implement for gardening, &c. wrought on both sides, the one exhibiting a drapery finished with great taste; and on the other sides, the letters L. L. I.; at the bottom of which appears an S., and on the reverse the letters I. O. N.; each of them appear perfectly well cut. A basket of fruit and a censer, which adorn the architrave, indicate that these relics date from one of the most flourishing times of architectural science.

Ancient Mosaic Pavement discovered.—Lyons, 24th June.—Mons. Macors has just discovered a new piece of mosaic, about fifty paces from that which he discovered about two years ago, and which represented the Games of Circe.—The newly-discovered piece represents Meleager, at the moment when he returns from the chase, and offers to Atalanta the skin of the wild-boar of Calydon, which she had herself first wounded.

The Paris Theatres.—A French journalist has published a table of all the new dramatic pieces which have appeared in the principal theatres of Paris since the year 1800: the result of which is, that the Comédie Française has represented in 9 years, 27 comedies of one act, and 10 of three; 10 tragedies and 5 comedies of five acts: The Académie Impériale de Musique, 18 operas, and 24 ballets: The Théâtre de Louvois, 380 comedies in five acts, three acts, and one act: The Vaudeville, 340 pieces in one act: The Théâtre Montansier, 300: The Théâtre de la Gaîté, and that of l'Ambigu Comique united, 400 vaudevilles, and 568 melo-dramas.—Thus it seems that the melo-drama has borne the prize from all other literary productions; but if they have been no better than those of that name which have appeared in London, they must have been flimsy indeed, and have added nothing to the solid honour of the classical muse of France.

Comparative State of French Literature for the Years 1807 and 1808.

In the course of the years 1807 and 1808, there appeared in France the following works:

	1807.	1808.
Natural History	11	16
Botany	20	19
Mineralogy	1	2
Physics and Chemistry	20	16
Physiology, Medicine, and Surgery	54	58
Mathematical Sciences	18	16
Astronomy	3	—
Weights and Measures	3	—
Arts and Manufactures	16	19
Hydraulic Architecture, Causeways	8	2
Commerce	8	16
Rural and Domestic Economy	27	50
Hunting	2	—
Finances	5	—
Military Art	8	8
History	15	45
Biography	67	18
Voyages	30	24
Geography	10	13
Geographical Maps	16	20
Political Economy, & Statistics	38	28
Legislation, Jurisprudence	55	54
Instruction, Education	19	23
Religion, Worship, and Philosophy	34	23
Fine Arts	66	58
Antiquities	6	7
Bibliography	10	5
French, Foreign, Ancient, and Oriental Literature	52	30
Novels	61	78
Theatrical	49	22
Poetry	57	37
Music	61	24
Miscellanies	37	32
Philology	44	32
Journals and Almanacs	10	8

Total..... 923 792

Decreased publications in 1808,— 131

GERMANY.

Family of the present Emperor of Germany, &c.—[From a German Journal.]—The Archduke Charles, generalissimo of the Austrian army, was born Sept. 5, 1771; he is the second brother of the present Emperor Francis II. The Archduke Ferdinand, Grand Duke of Wurtzburgh, and Member of the Confederation of the Rhine, the oldest brother of the Emperor, was born May 6, 1769. The Archduke John, who commands the army of Italy, was born Jan. 20, 1782, and is the fifth of this numerous family. Between the latter and the Archduke Charles, is the Archduke Joseph, Palatine and Lieutenant of Hungary, born March

9, 1776, and Anthony, Grand-Master of the Teutonic Order, born Aug. 31, 1778. After the Archduke John, follows the Archduke Rainier, born Sept. 30, 1783, by the Emperor nominated, when he quitted his capital, President of the Council. The Archduke Louis, born Dec. 13th, 1784, who commands the fifth corps of the army, having general Hiller under his orders;—and, lastly, the youngest brother of the Emperor, the Archduke Rodolph, born Jan. 8th, 1788: he does not hold any acknowledged rank in the army.—The Archduke Ferdinand, who is cousin-german to the Emperor, commanding the army in Poland, was born April 25th, 1781; his brother, the Archduke Maximilian, who was made commandant of Vienna, was born July 14th, 1782. The Emperor himself, Francis II, with whom, according to the order of birth, we should have commenced this genealogy, was born Feb. 12th, 1768. He has nine children: four princes, and five princesses.

General Liberty of Conscience.—Augsburg, June 22, 1809. A royal edict, of a most extensive nature, has been published here, respecting the religion (and religious bodies) of all Bavarian subjects. An absolute liberty of conscience is granted to all the inhabitants of Bavaria; enacting, that every person, after having attained his twentieth year, is at liberty to choose and to exercise whatever religion he may think most proper, without its being prejudicial either to his private or civil rights. This liberty is extended in common to both sexes. Every person is strictly prohibited from making proselytes, either by compulsion or stratagem. If in any marriage contract it shall be agreed, that the children of such marriage shall be educated in any particular persuasion, such contract shall be considered legal, and shall be strictly adhered to; but in default of such agreement, the males shall be educated in the religion of the father, and the females in that of the mother. Foundlings shall be brought up in the religion of those who have the charge of their education.

Earthquakes.—Dusseldorf, July 3.—Yesterday we felt here, and in the neighbourhood, two slight shocks of an earthquake; the first in the morning, about half-past two, and the second about half-past five o'clock. We could not ascertain the duration of the first; but it must have been very strong, as the beasts in the stables were so alarmed, that the country people were awakened by the uncommon noise they made. The second shock lasted about five seconds; and was accompanied by a noise, not unlike the galloping of a number of horses over a stone causeway. This is a very uncommon occurrence in our part of the world. Happily, it has done no mischief; or at least, not in our neighbourhood.

Effects of War.—In the Austrian districts, where the late battles took place, twenty-seven large villages remain deserted. Seventeen of them are wholly ravaged, and the remainder partially so. Many of the inhabitants have taken up their abode in the woods, forests, &c.—Between 2 and 3000 wounded Austrians, who remained in a field of rye after the battle of the 6th July, were burnt to death, in consequence of the rye accidentally taking fire.—The contributions levied on the Austrian provinces by Bonaparte, amount to the enormous sum of 196,240,000 francs.

Corsican Discrimination.—In the circular mandate, addressed by Buonaparte, to the bishops, commanding them to offer up prayers on account of the victories of Enzersdorf and Wagram, he says:—"Though our Lord Jesus Christ sprang from the blood of David, he sought no worldly empire; on the contrary, he required that in concerns of this life, men should obey Cæsar. His great object was, the deliverance and salvation of souls. We, the inheritors of Cæsar's power, are firmly resolved to maintain the independence of our throne, and the inviolability of our rights. We shall persevere in the great work of the restoration of the worship of God: we shall communicate to its ministers that respectability which we alone can give them: we shall listen to their voice in all that concerns spiritual matters and affairs of conscience. We shall not be drawn aside from the great end which we strive to attain, and in which we have hitherto succeeded in part—the restoration of the altars of our divine worship; nor suffer ourselves to be persuaded, that these principles, as Greeks, English, Protestants, and Calvinists affirm, are inconsistent with the independence of thrones and nations. God has enlightened us enough to remove such errors far from us. Our subjects entertain no such fear."

Emigration prevented.—The French papers mention, under a German date, that the Baden government had, by desire of the French minister, issued a circular letter, to prevent individuals from coming across the Rhine without a passport, in order to prevent emigration to the Crimea.

HOLLAND.

Enormous Hail-stones.—Rotterdam, July 5, 1809.—We learn from Zevenhuisen, three leagues from hence, that on the 29th ult. at noon, a violent storm of thunder and lightning arose from the N. W. accompanied by strong wind, and a very heavy fall of hail, or rather pieces of ice, in size equal to a pigeon's egg; which has caused considerable damage to the harvest, and has left the farmers in a most deplorable situation, all their corn being totally destroyed.

New Dutch Bible.—By a royal decree, published at Amsterdam, a new translation of the Bible, from the Hebrew into Dutch, is commanded; it is to supersede all others now used in schools.

Herring Fishery.—The Dutch herring fishery, which usually employed several thousand men, this year only engages three smacks.

INDIES, EAST.

Naval Report.—Calcutta, November, 1808.—As an additional instance of the flourishing state of the ship-building at this presidency, we have the pleasure to announce, that on Monday last the silver nail was driven by the Honourable the Governor, in the presence of a number of respectable spectators, on the occasion of laying down the keel of a twelve hundred ton ship, intended for the mercantile service of the Honourable Company. The name bestowed on this new ship is the Charles Grant, and there is no doubt she will do honour to the ascertained abilities of Jemsetjee, the master builder, who is thus carrying on in the same dock-yard the construction of two ships of the largest description, one for the King, and the other for the Company.—A very fine frigate, we understand, is now on the stocks at Penang, and in a state of such forwardness, that it is expected she will be launched early in the ensuing year. She rates 36 guns, and is to be named the Malacca. A 74 is lately launched.

Present Condition of the Dutch Settlements.—Since the restoration of the Moluccas to the Dutch government, at the close of the last war, great exertions have been made, at Amboyna in particular, towards improving the defences of the island. The depot of naval and military stores has been removed from the harbour to the adjacent hill, where it has been strongly fortified; redoubts and batteries have been constructed on various points, particularly at the landing places; and deep trenches have been cut all over the country, and covered over with grass and rubbish, for the purpose of entrapping any invading enemy.—The European portion of the garrison at Amboyna did not, however, exceed 4 or 500 men; and such was the detestation in which the Dutch government was universally held by the natives, that the Buggess troops, which they had embodied and trained with considerable diligence, were considered as worse than inefficient. Indeed, the inhabitants of the neighbouring shores universally asserted, that if any hostile force were to appear, the Dutch government could not subsist for an hour.—The trade carried on from the Moluccas in Dutch bottoms was, as might be expected, nearly extinct. No spice-ships had sailed for a length of time. The produce of the islands had latterly been taken

off principally by Arab traders. A few ships likewise were in the custom of passing to and fro, with rice and other necessary articles of life, from Celebes. The supply of provisions is said to have been abundant.—The Sultan of Tidore (the natural sovereign of the greater part of the Moluccas) is in a state of great distress and degradation, upon the island of Geby, the easternmost of the Archipelago. He had been lately deprived of all his possessions and authority, both in Tidore and Gilolo, by the Dutch troops from Ternate, and was wandering about, with a few resolute but defenceless adherents, anxious for an opportunity of revenge, but entirely destitute of arms, ammunition, and every other necessary means.—The Dutch in the island of Java have lately been engaged in pretty extensive hostilities with the chiefs of the interior. A strong detachment of Dutch troops from Samarang, which had been sent against the dominions of the king of Sooloo (one of the princes of the island), had been cut off to a man. Since the arrival of general Daendels at Batavia, considerable exertions had been made to recruit the military force of the colony, by levies of native troops.—The chief Bally had just received a requisition from the Dutch government for an aid of 300 men, but he seemed very little disposed to obey it.—With the exception of a large armed brig named the Mandarin (formerly an American), and two smaller brigs attached to the Moluccas, not a single ship of war now bears the flag of Holland in the Indian seas.—Six South-Sea whalers were at the Moluccas. They confined themselves exclusively to the professed business of their voyages, and had found the eastern seas extremely productive.—The French national brig Courier, during her late cruise to the eastward, had touched at Magindanao, where she had delivered to the chief of the island a present from the government of the Mauritius, consisting of 6 pieces of brass ordnance, 50 barrels of gunpowder, and 50 stand of each description of small arms; and she afterwards conveyed a similar present to the king of Sooloo.

Wahabees.—Letters addressed to some of the Arab merchants of Bombay report, that very serious alarms were entertained at Busorah of an immediate attack from the Wahabees, who threatened that city from the westward, with an immense host.—Their force was estimated at 100,000 men, supported by a naval equipment of 2000 dows, and other smaller vessels.

INDIES, WEST.

Barks for Tanning.—Dr. Anderson, of the Botanical Gardens, at St. Vincent's, has transmitted to this country specimens of the bark of five different kinds of trees, which he conceives may become substitutes for oak

bark in tanning. They are all common on that island, and if found to possess the astringent or tanning quality, may be procured at a very low price.

ITALY.

Miraculous Image! and Detection.—Padua, May 26. A great concourse of people assembled yesterday at the church of St. Sophia, where the holy father, Louis Bidan, affirmed that the image of the Holy Virgin opened and shut her eyes. The civil authority, accompanied by a body of soldiers, interfered, and immediately put a stop to this religious imposition. The holy father, on being summoned before the prefect, to answer to the charges alleged against him, acknowledged that he had been deceived, and that his over-zealous imagination had led him to believe this prodigy to be fact, although it had no foundation in truth.

Internal Commotion in Vesuvius.—Naples, 9th May.—Yesterday, at midnight, there arose a violent storm of thunder, accompanied by an unusual fall of hail and rain. At the same time were heard terrific subterraneous noises, the general precursors of an earthquake. These apparently were occasioned by some eruption in the interior of Mount Vesuvius. In fact, but a few minutes before, a violent flame was seen to issue from the mountain, and immediately after that event these extraordinary noises were heard: they were most audible towards the sea. This natural phenomenon is, in some measure, a proof of the general connexion which subsists between the volcano and all the districts in the vicinity of Naples.

Balloon burst.—On the 22d of August 1808, M. Andreoli and M. Brioschi went up with a balloon at Padua. When the mercury had fallen to 13 inches (about the height of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles), M. B. began to feel an extraordinary palpitation of the heart, without any painful sensation in breathing. When the mercury was down to 12 ($4\frac{1}{2}$ miles), he was overpowered with a pleasing sleep, that soon became a real lethargy. The balloon continued ascending, and when the mercury was about 9 inches (near 6 miles), M. A. perceived himself swollen all over, and he could not move his left hand. When the mercury had fallen to 8.5 (about six miles and a quarter high), the balloon burst with a loud explosion, began to descend rapidly with much noise, and M. B. awoke. It fell about 12 miles from Padua, without any injury being received by the aerial travellers.

* * * This bursting of the balloon can only refer to the damage sustained by a part of it: for had the whole machine burst completely the consequences would have been fatal. Instances of such an event have occurred: witness that in which our old acquaintance Pilatre du Rozier lost his life; and others since,

RUSSIA.

Russian Commerce between Asia and America.—St. Petersburg, June 3. According to accounts received from the directors of the Russian American Company, the two ships belonging to that company, namely, the frigate *Juno*, from the island of *Hodjak*, and the brigantine *Peter and Paul*, from the island of *Atcha*, had safely arrived on the 22d and 24th of Aug. 1808, at the port of St. Peter and Paul, in *Kamschatka*. They have each brought a considerable cargo of furs. The *Juno* was dispatched the same year with a quantity of mercantile articles and manufactures; but the brigantine, which stood in need of repairs, wintered there, and will now be dispatched with her cargo to *Ochorsk*.—The ship *Nerva*, which, in the year 1806, had been sent off for the second time to *Hodjak*, after touching at the island of *Sitkak*, arrived safe in September, 1807, at *Hodjak*, after a passage of eleven months.

SPAIN.

Spanish Monument to Sir John Moore.—An elegant and appropriate monument has been erected by the Marquis of Romana, to perpetuate the memory of General Sir John Moore. The body of General Moore has been removed from the obscure place in which it was interred, and placed under the monument in a more conspicuous situation. The inscription on the monument is:—

A la Gloria

Del General Ingles Moore,
Y sus Valientes Compatriotas,
La Espana Agradecida.

To the Glory

Of the English General Moore,
And his valiant Countrymen,
Erected by the Gratitude of Spain.

And on the other side:—

Memoria del Dia 16 de Enero, 1809.

In Memory of the Action of 16th January, 1809.

It appears from this proceeding, so creditable to the Marquis de Romana and the Spanish nation, that the boasted magnanimity of Ney and his officers, in erecting a monument to the departed worth of a hero who was their enemy, was altogether without foundation.

Corsican Conciliation.—Joseph Buonaparte has published in Madrid the following decree, which is curious, as an instance of the consistency with which the French proceeded in the execution of their monstrous tyranny. This decree can, in fact, answer no other purpose, than to furnish an easy pretext for the most unbounded exactions; and will, doubtless, be understood throughout Spain, as a foretaste of mild and just government under the new dynasty:—

“ All the inhabitants of the towns and

villages of Spain, who have sons among the insurgents, are bound to supply as many men to the army of his majesty as they have sons in the hostile army; or pay into the royal treasury a sum of money in proportion to the property of each. These contributors are to be thus classed:—Those who have a revenue of 3000 ducats, shall pay 12,000 reals for each person they ought to furnish; those who possess 2000 ducats, 6000 reals; and those whose income does not exceed 1000 ducats, 3000 reals.—Those whose income is less than 1000 ducats shall be arrested and carried into France, until their sons shall surrender themselves up to the legal authority. Elder brothers and guardians are comprised in the provisions of this decree, which is not applicable to younger brothers.”

SWEDEN.

Oath of Allegiance to the new King.—Stockholm, July 3.—Saturday the oath of allegiance to his present majesty was solemnly taken in the square, where the statue of Gustavus III. has been erected. A throne had been raised, for that purpose, in front of the statue, and on both sides galleries were constructed; on the right for the queen and the princess royal, and on the left for the foreign ambassadors. After his majesty was seated on the throne, the states of the nobility, clergy, citizens, and peasants, were called upon by the herald to take the oath; in consequence whereof, they approached, one after another, and swore allegiance to his majesty's reign and person. The land marshal then conducted them to the throne, where they kissed his majesty's hand, and were thereupon dismissed.

Allowance to the late King and Queen.—Stockholm, August 15.—His royal majesty has sent to the diet the following message, relative to the pension which the states are to allow to the late king Gustavus Adolphus, his queen, and children:—“ The period is now fast approaching, when a prince, who lately governed Sweden, but whose claim to the Swedish crown has been solemnly cancelled by the unanimous resolution of the states of the realm, must absent himself from his country. His own spontaneous wish agrees on this point with what the public tranquillity and security require. His royal majesty has taken the advice of the secret committee on a subject of so much importance; which, however, the state of public affairs does not yet permit his majesty to communicate to the diet, and he therefore confines himself at present to the question—“ What pension or yearly allowance are the states of the realm willing to grant to their late king, his queen, and children?”—This question being answered, another will be most relative to the country, which it will be most

proper to assign for the residence of Gustavus Adolphus and his family.—His majesty does not deem it superfluous to add some observations which the states are to bear in mind in their deliberation on this subject. The states cannot but be aware, that their decision must bear the stamp of dignified generosity which becomes a noble-minded nation; that misfortune craves respect; and that humanity itself commands forgiveness and oblivion of the past. His royal majesty is anxiously desirous that the states of the realm, by dividing the subject under discussion, on these principles, should meet his wishes, and thus give a pledge to Europe of the purity of the motives which induced Sweden to revive her system of government, and renew the structure of the state.—CHARLES."

SWITZERLAND.

Floods and Torrents from melting Snows.—Bern, June 12.—The river Aar has, for some days past, risen to a very extraordinary height for this season of the year; the same has also been the case with a number of lakes and rivers which derive their sources from the mountains. The lakes of Brienz, of Bienné, and of Thou, have overflowed their banks. These risings and inundations are attributed to the melting of the snow, occasioned by the south winds.

OBSERVANDA INTERNA.

The King's 50th Accession Anniversary.—Sept. 15. This day a special court of Common Council was convened for the purpose of considering the propriety of celebrating the 25th of October next, as the anniversary of his Majesty's entering into the 50th year of his reign.

Alderman Sir Wm. Curtis opened the business; he hoped nothing would disturb the harmony of the court, but trusted to find unanimity on this occasion. He believed that every individual, to whatever party attached, would acknowledge his happiness that his Majesty had so long reigned. He then enumerated many of his Majesty's personal virtues; and moved the resolutions.

Mr. Waithman, in contravention, enlarged on the changes in public affairs, that had occurred during his Majesty's long reign: went over the appointment of Lord Bute, Charles Jenkinson (the late Lord Liverpool), the affairs of Wilkes; and whatever he deemed reprehensible in later transactions.—Mr. Reeves—John Bowles—the turtlet-eating system of supporting the Spaniards—Lord Castlereagh—Lord Chatham—The Duke of York—jollification—illumination—taxation—thought the corporation should dine with the Lord Mayor at the Mansion-house—proposed as an amendment, an address to his Majesty, warning him of the evils, &c. &c. of present measures, &c. &c. and desiring reform, &c. &c.

Mr. Dixon and several other members thought that when a compliment was intended to his Majesty personally, extraneous politics ought not to be associated with the consideration of it. After

much discussion whether the present was, or was not, a political question, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

FLOWER, Mayor.—At a common council, holden in the chamber of the Guildhall of the city of London, on Friday, the 15th day of September, 1809.—Resolved unanimously, that this Court will celebrate the approaching Anniversary of his Majesty's Accession to the Throne of this kingdom, on the 25th day of October next, being the day on which his Majesty will enter the fiftieth year of his reign.—Resolved unanimously, that a committee be appointed, consisting of all the aldermen, and a commoner out of each ward, to consider of the best means of carrying the said resolution into effect, and to report their opinion thereupon to this Court.—WOODTHORPE.

Sept. 26. A Court of Common Council assembled in their council chamber, at Guildhall, to receive the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the best mode of celebrating the anniversary of his Majesty's Coronation, when it was resolved, that the corporation should attend Divine service on the 25th of October; and that an address of congratulation be presented to his Majesty, that the front of Guildhall should be illuminated, and that a public dinner should be given.

Patriotic Fund.—At a general meeting of the subscribers to the Patriotic Fund, held August 24, Sir Thomas Baring, the chairman, stated in a few words, that it was the duty of the committee to present a statement of their accounts (amounting to 400,000l.), and to submit the propriety of a further appeal to the generosity of the public. Besides the cash accounts, as given, Mr. Marryat stated, that many of the gratuities voted had not been applied for; that the balance of 93,221l. stock, if now sold, would produce about 130,000l. which would probably be exhausted by claims for the families of the unfortunate in the battles of Corunna and Talavera:—the war being now carried on more by land than by sea, the committee had endeavoured to meet that circumstance: they had given 40,000l. to the Naval and Military Asylum, for which that society undertook to receive and educate, all the children of either sex, recommended by the committee: he thought the badges to merit (which amounted to 16,000l.) must hereafter yield to distress. The allowances to British prisoners in France were instituted in consequence of Buonaparte having refused permission for an accredited agent for English prisoners to remain in France: many of them were in consequence reduced to great distress: the amount of these allowances was an addition of three halfpence per day to the aged, the sick, and the infirm. At every depot of prisoners was also an hospital and a school. He thought that hereafter relief would be given to such wounded only as were disabled by their wounds. He vindicated the general purposes of the institution from any interference with legislative enactments.—The following statement of the receipt and expenditure was then laid before the meeting, by Joseph Marryat, Esq. on the part of the committee:—

Amount of subscriptions	£354,677	1	6
Interest and profit on stock resold.	70,155	15	1

Total amount . . . £424,832 16 7

Brought forward . . .	£424,832	16	7
Gratuities and annuities to 2050 widows, orphans, and relatives of officers and men killed in action with the enemy, and to 7642 officers and men wounded or disabled	£275,186	6	8
For the relief of British prisoners of war in France	16,700	0	0
For honorary rewards	16,456	4	4
For advertisements	11,187	15	6
For printing reports, circular letters, &c.	2,421	16	5
Income tax	1,459	1	0
Postage, rent, salaries, and various expences	8,200	8	3
	331,611	12	2
Balance	£93,221	4	5

It further appeared by the report of the committee, that they had lists of 3469 men killed, and 6010 men wounded, for whose cases no provision was yet made; and that they estimated these demands upon the fund, on the present system of expenditure, at 129,480l.—Resolved unanimously, that the enlarged scale upon which the military operations of the country are now carrying on, makes it necessary to reconsider the original resolutions under which the committee have hitherto acted; and that in future the donations from this fund be appropriated exclusively to the relief of the widows, orphans, and relatives, who depended for support on those who fall in the cause of their country; to the relief of those whose wounds are attended with loss of limb, or disability from future service; to the annual allowance made towards the aged and infirm British prisoners of war, and to the support of the schools and hospitals established at the different depôts in France.—That an appeal be made to the patriotism and liberality of the public, for new contributions to the Patriotic Fund, that the committee may be provided with the means of continuing the accustomed relief to these meritorious objects.—That a subscription for these laudable purposes be now entered into, and that contributions be received at the bar of Lloyd's Coffee-house, and by all the Bankers in the United Kingdom.—About 20,000l. has since been subscribed in aid of the intentions of this society.

Supplies to the Spanish Army.—An order was given lately, by the Spanish legation, in the name of the Spanish government, for the following articles, to be furnished on their account at the expiration of one month from the date of the order: 50,000 pair of stockings (cottons), 25,000 pair of shoes, 25,000 shirts, 25,000 stocks and cravats, 25,000 haversacks. The house to which this order has been given, has recently furnished warm clothing for 50,000 men (to be paid for by the Spanish government), in order to enable the patriots to keep the field during the ensuing winter.

Increased Rate of Cartage.—Lately, at the adjourned sessions at Guildhall, the petition of the Fellowship of Carmen came on to be considered, when the Court ordered an increase of one-fifth upon the present rates of cartage.

Abolition of Holidays.—By an act passed in the last session of parliament, all holidays are abolished at the Excise Office except the following: Good Friday, King's, Queen's, and Prince of Wales's Birth-days, the Restoration, Coronation, and Christmas-day.

Merino Sheep.—Thirteen hundred Merino sheep were lately landed at Deptford from eight transports, for the use of his Majesty. There were fifty also for Lord Holland, and the same number for Lord Mulgrave; 157 common Spanish sheep were landed for the King; 5,000 more Merinos are on their passage for his Majesty.

White Tiger.—The tiger brought to England by Sir Edward Pellew, is milk white: it has been lodged in the Tower as a present to the King.

Statue of the late Duke of Bedford.—The board having been removed from the grand agricultural bronze statue of the late Duke of Bedford, in Russell-square, it is now exposed to public view. It is allowed, by all who have seen it, to be a striking likeness of the distinguished nobleman to whose memory it has been erected. It is the most magnificent work of the kind which was ever cast in England, and does great honour to the artist, Westmacott, and the country, of which it will remain a national ornament. The figure of the Duke stands on a rock, with the right hand resting on a plough, and the left holding a quantity of corn. At the base of the rock, are four figures of boys, in bronze, as large as life, representing the Seasons: their attributes are elegantly classical. The cornice of the granite pedestal is highly enriched with figures of cattle, and at each corner are heads of oxen also in bronze. On each side of the pedestal is a bas relief in bronze, the subjects of which are the labours of the farm yard and harvest field. The inscription in front is:

FRANCIS,
DUKE OF BEDFORD.
Erected
MDCCCIX.

The figure of the Duke is nine feet in height, and the pedestal sixteen. It certainly may be ranked as one of the most splendid objects of the metropolis.

Scarcity of Gold Coin.—The very extraordinary and general complaints lately made of the scarcity of guineas prove to have been well-founded. Several persons have been employed in collecting, in markets and other places, where the circulation of the current coin of the country most predominates, specie to a large amount, for which they have been accustomed to give a premium of five per cent. in bank notes. This infamous traffic is at length clearly traced to different sources, and it is ascertained, that considerable quantities of guineas have been sent out of the country. A seizure was lately made of cases containing thirty thousand guineas.

Infusion of Corn, Drink for Horses.—Some of the innkeepers in Coventry and its vicinity have adopted the practice recommended by a member of the Bath Agricultural Society, of boiling the corn given to horses, and giving them the water to drink. It is most satisfactorily ascertained, that three bushels of oats, barley, &c. so prepared, will keep the horses in better condition for working than double the quantity in a crude state.

State of the Royal Navy.—At sea :—91 sail of the line, 15 frigates and forty-fours, 136 frigates, 149 sloops and yachts, 5 bombs and fire-ships, 75 brigs, 10 cutters, 132 schooners; total 620.—*Ships in commission* : 161 sail of the line, 28 frigates and forty-fours, 168 frigates, 172 sloops and yachts, 9 bombs and fire-ships, 14 cutters, 154 schooners; total 391.—*The grand total*, which includes vessels of war of all denominations, repairing for service or building, in port and fitting, in ordinary, &c. &c. amounts to 1057.

Punishment for Desertion from the Army.—Corporal punishment for desertion has been abolished in the army, excepting in cases of desertion from the depot in the Isle of Wight, and deserters are now subjected to the severer penalty of incorporation in the condemned regiments. Two prison-ships have been fitted up in the Medina (Isle of Wight), for the reception of deserters, and, we understand, now contains seven hundred, waiting opportunities to be sent out to the regiments to which they are to be attached.

Increase of Methodists.—The annual conference of the Methodists held this year at Manchester, terminated on Thursday Aug. 17 :—259 preachers attended.—Actual increase of members during the past year, 14,200,—6,200 in England and Ireland, and 8,000 in America. The number of preachers received at conference, after the four probationary years, exclusive of those in the districts, was 23; and the number of new chapels opened since last conference is stated to be considerable.

Astronomy.—Notice to the Public from William Herschel, LL.D. of Slough, near Windsor. Many of the public papers, for a length of time past, have occasionally ascribed certain predictions of the state of the weather to me; and several of them have lately gone so far as actually to prefix my name to what they have called a Weather Table, in which, according to certain hours of the changes of the moon, wind, rain, snow, frost, &c. &c. are prognosticated. Such a table, by some mistake, has even been very lately inserted into a very respectable philosophical magazine. In justice to myself, therefore, I think it highly necessary that the public should be undeceived by my declaring that the table pretended to be of my construction, as well as every prognostication of the state of the weather that has appeared in the newspapers as ascribed to me, are all gross impositions.—W. HERSCHELL.—Slough, near Windsor, Sept. 16, 1809.

Petrified Tortoise.—Lately, as some men were digging in Swanage rocks, on the island of Purbeck, a petrified land tortoise was discovered, seventy feet deep from the surface, in the highest state of perfection. The Rev. S. Woolmer being in the neighbourhood, the men brought it to him for his inspection, who, being struck with admiration at so great a curiosity, immediately offered them five guineas for it, which they declined accepting, but after exhibiting it about, sold it to a gentleman at Upway for eight guineas; since which £300 has been offered for it, but refused. It was supposed very probable that its mate might be found near, as the male and female are generally together, upon which farther search was made, when after digging some time, another was dug up, but entirely broken in pieces and spoiled.

Reculver Church; or, the Sisters.—The church of Reculver, in contemplation of its fall, has been stripped of its covering of lead; but the lovers of antiquity will learn with pleasure, that the sister-spires, with the towers which support them, are likely to be preserved, as we are informed that the Trinity House has at length become sensible of their importance to the navigation of the Thames, and has made some indirect proposals for their purchase, through a surveyor, who has been sent down for that purpose. (*Kentish Chronicle*, Sept. 15.)

Prisoners of War.—Norwich. The benevolent exertions made in this city, during the stay of these unfortunate people, in their way to Norman Cross, for facilitating generally the means of their further progress, and for supplying the necessities of the females and children in particular, are acknowledged by themselves in the following address :—"We, the undersigned officers, prisoners of war, lately arrived from Flushing, impressed with feelings of the most lively gratitude, beg respectfully to return our thanks to the mayor, magistrates, and inhabitants of this city, for the very humane treatment and generous relief that we and our families have experienced at their hands, under the circumstances of extreme distress to which the bombardment of the above-mentioned fortress had reduced us.—Norwich, Sept. 6, 1809."

Musical Bells. Norwich.—On Saturday evening, July 1st, 1809, being the first club night after the annual feast of St. Peter's society of change-ringing artists of Norwich, which is kept always to the honour of St. Peter, on St. Peter's day, Mr. Samuel Thurston, one of the above society, struck on their peals of musical hand bells, the five following intricate short peals, in the society's club-room, at the New Theatre public-house, that evening, in presence of most of the change-ringers :—

First. A peal of plain-bob-triples, containing 84 changes, and was nobly brought round in 2 minutes and 45 seconds.

Second. A peal of bob-major, containing 112 changes, and completed in 3 minutes and 49 seconds.

Third. A peal of bob-major-reversed, containing 112 changes, and finished in 3 minutes and 12 seconds.

Fourth. A peal of double-bob-major, containing 112 fine changes, completed in 3 minutes and 55 seconds.

Fifth. A peal of grandsire-bob-cats, containing 126 changes, and was nobly finished in 5 minutes and 14 seconds.

N.B. The four first peals he struck on 8 musical hand bells, and the last on a fine-toned peal of ten; being the greatest performance ever completed by one person in the world.

Cornwall new Copper Mine.—One of the richest lodes of copper that has been seen for many years past, has just been discovered in the neighbourhood of Padstow. It is of fine grey ore, three feet thick, and worth from 80l. to 100l. a fathom; and it is only 15 feet below the surface, while the levels are such as to admit, with ease, of an edit at 40 fathoms. Rocks of grey ore are to be seen on the spot, of 2 cwt. each, and worth 40l. per ton.

Manchester Theatre.—On the last night of the Manchester theatrical season, Mr. M'Cready came forward and addressed a numerous and elegant audience in nearly the following words:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—This being the conclusion of the season, I feel it incumbent upon me to return my grateful thanks to you, and those who have honoured the theatre with their support; at the same time, I cannot help lamenting that the example has not been more generally followed; for it is a melancholy truth, that, notwithstanding every possible effort which has been made, the performers that have been brought, at great salaries, and the new pieces that have been produced, in a style, which, permit me without vanity to say, I believe would not reflect discredit on a London theatre;—painful as it is to assert, it is the fact, that it has not been attended with success: indeed, the result is quite the reverse of success; it is to me *utter ruin*: the money that I had in the funds, on coming here, which was not inconsiderable, is entirely exhausted; the property I brought, the fruits of my early industry, is at this moment under seizure for rent; and for the liberty that at this moment gives me the power of addressing you, I am obliged to two friends. Thus situated, I despair of ever having the honour of appearing before you after this night.—The performers, who have experienced your kindness, unite in offering their heartfelt acknowledgements; and wishing you that health, prosperity, and happiness, which have been strangers to many of us, we cordially and respectfully bid you—farewell."

Potatoes propagated by the Stalks.—The following new method of propagating potatoes has been communicated to the Bath and West of England Society, by the Rev. J. Burton. Having a piece of ground choked up with potatoe stalks, from the negligence of the labourers employed in the clearing of it of a preceding crop, this gentleman carefully planted about 100 of them in drills, in the same manner as cabbage plants, first pulling off the potatoes that adhered to the roots. The experiment succeeded, and each stalk produced from 10 to 15, some of them uncommonly large.

The Light House on the Bell Rock, at the mouth of the Frith of Forth, for the construction of which a considerable sum has been granted by parliament is already 20 feet high; and as every difficulty has been overcome, there is no doubt that in two seasons more, it will be completely finished. It is built upon the principles of the Eddystone, but spreads out more at the base, which is 42 feet diameter, and will be 116 feet in height, which is 23 feet higher than the Eddystone.

Increase of Foxes.—Scotland. A fund has been raised in the counties of Inverness and Ross, for rewarding those who destroy the greatest number of foxes, those destructive animals having increased of late to an alarming degree.

Extraordinary Case.—Ireland. From the Dublin Papers of the 22d inst. On Thursday last, at seven o'clock in the evening, a man was passing by the lime kiln of D. Gosson, near Finglas, he saw, in a hollow below the wall of the kiln, a person in a grey coat lying on his face on the ground. At first he supposed him to be asleep or intoxicated, but after some time perceiving he did

not stir, he was induced to examine him more closely, when he found him apparently dead. On turning him on his back to ascertain who he might be, a sight the most awful and horrid presented itself to his view. The person was not dead, but on moving his coat, the whole surface of his body seemed a moving mass of worms; his face was much disfigured, apparently from some bruises inflicted either by blows or by a fall; and from every aperture of his head, his eyes, ear, mouth, and nose, poured innumerable worms, as if the interior of his skull were intirely filled with them. His eyes were dissolved, and the cavities, as well as those of his ear, mouth, and nose, were filled with a white moving mass, more horrid and disgusting than it is possible for imagination to conceive, without ocular inspection. After some time, the miserable being recovered sufficient strength to walk, and so far recovered his recollection and voice, that he distinctly answered several questions put to him; he told who he was, where he lived, &c.; that he was returning home on a car the evening before, and having drank too much he fell off, and lay stunned with the fall till he was discovered. He could not account for the wounds in his head, nor for his being so far off the road; but it is probable he had received the contusion on his face from the fall, or perhaps the car had gone over him, and he had insensibly crawled to the place where he lay. The humidity of the air, and the heat of the weather, had rapidly brought on a solution of the solids in those bruisd parts already predisposed to putrescency, and now lying in contact with the moist earth. In this was speedily deposited the eggs of innumerable insects, whose generation was as rapid as the predisposing causes were favourable; and thus, while the vital powers rallied at the centre, and the blood, yet circulating round the heart, preserved the vital principle, the extremities, in which all pulsation had ceased, were dissolving into their primitive elements, and the whole surface of the body exhibited a mass of animated corruption. He was brought into an out-house, and laid on some hay; the loathsome objects were removed, as far as that could be done; he was washed with spirits and vinegar, had cordials poured down his throat, which he swallowed, though with some difficulty. In fact, every precaution was taken by the worthy people by whom he was discovered, but without effect; the putrescency rapidly increased; in a very short time the spasms in his throat prevented his swallowing; he gradually became insensible, and at twelve o'clock the next day he died, in a state of total putrescency, having lived in that dreadful situation 12 hours, from the time he was first discovered, and the greater part of that period in full possession of his senses, so much so, that he at several times inquired eagerly for his pocket, in which he recollected he had put some money, and which, to a small amount, was found. That Herod, Sylla, &c. were devoured by worms, whilst yet alive, are facts recorded by the ancient historians, and that the worms engender in the flesh and in nucleæ, &c. is also true; but those are not parallel cases, as they were the effects of morbid pendencies, and specific disorders. The only case in modern times perhaps, of a human being living under such circumstances, is recorded

in the romantic adventures of Iscerre Viand; and even here the incident throws a degree of discredit on the authenticity of the work, although it was attested by the annexed affidavits of persons who had seen it. Yet in that case the worms had only engendered in the lower extremities, while the head and the viscera, necessary to animal life, were free. But here the most essential organ of the animal economy was dissolved, while yet the living being walked and talked.

Fete at Dover.—Dover, Sept. 26.—To-day being the jubilee day of the Buckinghamshire militia, the regiment had a handsome dinner provided for them on our heights; at one o'clock one of the field-pieces was fired, when the men, their wives, and children sat down to partake of the entertainment, the non-commissioned officers attending to preserve order, and every thing was conducted with great order and decorum. The dinner being ended, another gun was fired, when the healths of the King, Royal Family, and the colonel, Lord Temple, &c. were drank.

Fire at Malta.—The fine new rope-house, at Malta, took fire on Sunday, the 9th of July, at about half past seven in the morning, and in less than ten minutes it was in flames from one end to the other. The conflagration threatened destruction to every part of the dock-yard, but by the prompt exertions of the navy and army (from whom there was immediate assistance), it was kept under, and almost extinguished by one o'clock at noon, with the loss only of the ropery and pitch store. The flames were only six feet from the hemp stores; had they taken fire, every thing in the yard must have been destroyed.

POETRY.

A RECIPE TO MAKE A KISS.

From rose-buds yet unblown, whose vernal morn

Perfumes the gale, unconscious of a thorn,
The purest purple take; and steal from May
The pearl that gems the lawn when springs the day;
Crop the young violet from her scented bed,
And spoil the primrose of its velvet head,
With love's own odours charg'd; and steep'd in joy,

The honey'd labours of the hive employ;
But search with care the aromatic work,
Lest danger in the sweet temptation lurk,
And mar the luscious toil; for should'st thou leave

One sting behind, 'twould all thy hopes deceive.
Into the fragrant mass let zephyr fling
The newest, earliest whisper of the spring;
The chirp of beauty's darling bird prepare,
And mix the murmurs of the turtle there;
Her smiles and graces Venus must infuse,
And thrice embalm the whole with Cyprian dews.
Now tell me, shepherds, in what happy grove
Dwells this fair bud of hope, this plant of love?—
On *Laura's* tips resides the nectar'd bliss,
And *lovers* mould the rapture to a kiss.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Essex.—Sept. 23 1809. Generally speaking the corn is now pretty well housed, and I believe, taken altogether in this neighbourhood, is not a full average crop. How the grain may be in proportion to the straw, at present, it is impossible to say. Very few samples of new wheat have appeared in the country markets; but the quality is said to be superior to that of last year. Oats, barley, and peas are much the same as stated in my former Report. Beans are better than were expected. Some pieces of turnips promise but little supply. Cabbages not much thought of here. The farmers are now busy sowing tares, and getting the beans and pea etches ready for wheat. Potatoes are abundant. Meat keeps pretty steady, except veal; which, as well as live stock, is advancing.

Suffolk.—Sept. 1809. The wheats have been got up in good order, and are thought to be a fair average crop. Barleys are chiefly well got up, with a small exception of some pieces, owing to the continual rains. They are considered at three parts of a crop. Peas and beans are considered a good sample and a fair crop. Clover with seed is suffering for want of dry weather. Turnips are considered at three parts of a crop: the fly took them off. Fine weather is much wanted, to get tares and rye into the ground and the muck on the summer lands for sowing wheat.

Warwickshire.—Sept. 1809. The county is deluged with wet. The herbage in the meadows is much damaged by floods. The harvest, which is now nearly got in, has been much injured, and for this last week, ill put together, so that it will probably heat in the ricks: the consequence will be, that it will come out either mow-burnt or mouldy; in either case its quality will be deteriorated, and its price enhanced; so that the public are the sufferers. The barley lands, where seeded down, are so tender, that they will not bear the cast, which sinks in ankle-deep: the ricks of barley are principally built in the field to be removed when the frost comes. Another very serious consideration is, the fallows are so wet, that there is no possibility at present of getting in the seed for another year: this I consider only as an inconvenience in theory; as the spring wheat is usually the better crop; nor is it material, within a fortnight, at what time the lammas wheat is deposited, if it be prior to vegetation being at a stand, which usually is not before the middle of November: it is, in my opinion, time enough for sowing. Stock of all kinds advancing. Potatoes a good crop, though not plentifully gotten up at present.

POLITICAL PERISCOPE.

Panorama Office, September 26, 1809.

If superior beings look down on this revolving globe, what a spectacle does it exhibit to their astonished eyes! What contradictions, among mankind! what contrarieties even of those qualities on which the creature man, most proudly piques himself! His professions, his boasts, are of kindness, candour, benevolence, compassion, sympathy:—his conduct is harsh, unfeeling, cruel:—in the name of charity he issues mandates full of vengeance against his fellows;—in the name of humanity, he practices whatever is inhuman; in the name of God, he destroys God's image; not accidentally, but habitually; not suddenly, but systematically; not by chance medley, but of set purpose. The bounds of time and life are but narrow by nature; man delights in making them still narrower: the enjoyments of human existence are but few at the very best; they are rendered still fewer by the enmity of man to his fellow: the social feelings find but few opportunities of indulgence without reserve: man watches with all his skill to render them still fewer, and to embitter those which he cannot altogether prevent. Such is the character which man sustains in the contemplation of those spiritual existences, who can point to the different communities which people the earth, and display the occurrences on each, as the progressive revolution of the globe brings them under inspection.

"There," as the empire of CHINA rises to view, will they say, "there resides a people, of fixed habits, and long established prejudices; they are truly independent; they turn to account all that the land and the waters produce; and coolly observe to those who offer them commerce: "We want you not." Lately were they in danger of coming to blows with distant strangers who attempted to guard a port on their coast, lest another race of distant strangers should occupy it. The Chinese told them that *neither* should possess it: and this determination ended the fray.

There spreads the vast region of HINDOSTAN, where a body of merchants have sprung up as warriors, and have overrun a country to which they have no other pretensions than that of having expelled their rivals, and of having seized the power with the government of the country. These, however, not seldom are opposed by the native chiefs; and lately they have seen their military establishment at variance with the general government at one of their presidencies (Madras). The officers are ordered home by the government; but, what heart-burnings do such incidents occasion!

That is PERSIA: it has lately been the scene of much intrigue: there, as elsewhere, the British and the French are opponents, and at length the former have prevailed to the mortification of the latter. The territories between India and Persia have been visited lately by the British; and what could not be refused them without hazard has been conceded by that government which dreads British influence less than Persian or Gallic intrigue.

There assemble, under the banners of the WAHABEES, crowds which have alarmed the many nations that profess the religion of Mahomet: they have suspended the pilgrimages to that prophet's holy city: they have even destroyed his tomb, and the tombs of those of his family: this must strike a terror wherever the Mahometan name is professed: We shall shortly see the remains of it vanish. PERSIA already trembles. TURKEY, which next approaches, trembles too: the Grand Signior, unlike his early ancestors of the Oulman race, crouches on his hams, in his Seraglio, and spends in wishes that energy which they displayed in action. They delighted in arms: they headed their hosts, hosts innumerable! they assaulted towns, and conquered provinces: he fears to call his own what his ancestors left him; and watches the distribution by other sovereigns made of his long-possessed territories. His dominions are in fact the object of contention between the neighbouring powers: Russia on the north has long anticipated the enjoyment of them, and WILL have them: Austria on the west, asserts that she has hereditary claims to them, and knows well that should Russia acquire them, she is at the mercy of that power. This she dreads, as well she may: she will not only be surrounded by enemies, but by enemies of a more formidable character, and more to be feared than the Ottomans. So empires decline! The Ottomans were formerly the dread of their neighbours; the destructive scourge of Christendom: their name spread terror in legions where their persons were unknown, and whatever of barbarous, of savage, of ferocious and unpitiful was to be compared or to be described, the Turks were the objects of that comparison. The fate which awaits that empire does not yet appear; but the vigilance necessary to secure the Turks from impending danger is thought to be impeded by fanaticism, indolence, and self-security; three harpies, each of them sufficient to destroy an empire. Yet if from the power of the two latter hags, the Turks could arise, they might astonish all the world at the resistance of which the former is capable. This empire is now at war with Russia; and the Turkish commander, it is said, not finding convenient conveyance for an equal number of the heads of his enemies, has sent to his court, *twenty-three bags of ears!!!*

RUSSIA has a difficult game to play: she is desirous of possessing the country now held by the Turks; yet she is aware that it will cost her more, much more than its value. It is probable, she never will acquire it; but if she does, from that day she may date the ruin of her present establishments. Her population will forsake the north to settle in the south: the north and the south will become rivals: and then *crash* goes the Muscovite empire. Russia has already more than enough in the north: the produce of the lands she there holds is not such as to justify her ambition of further possessions. Her armies acting in those parts, against Sweden, have lately lost thousands of men by starvation. She may injure Sweden; she may seriously weaken that state, even beyond what true policy would dictate, but she will not benefit herself. She may play at the game of soldiering, and enjoy the bustle of war, but she is weakening herself in respect to more important operations,—operations that concern her vital interests, and reputation.

AUSTRIA rises to view concealed by a cloud: what Austria *has been* we know: what Austria *is*, we know not: neither can we divine what Austria *shall be*. She is not yet, we hope, humbled to the dust. Does she still maintain her ancient pride? That pride has been her bane: that pride was substituted for prudence when she had to contend with Frederick of Prussia: when she was called to struggle with the Belgian insurgents: when she delayed her resistance to jacobins and jacobinism. Had Joseph II. never dismantled the barrier towns, he had not laid the *Pays-Bas* open to French invasion. Since that day all the dominions of his house have been invaded, and even desolated:—for the rest—dense is the cloud that covers it.—Has Austria made peace with Buonaparte? Has Buonaparte made peace with Austria? In what do the terms of the treaty differ from the stipulations at Tilsit and Erfurth? Are the plans for depriving Austria of the power of resistance when Turkey is dismantled, and distributed between Russia and France—are these plans confirmed by the acquiescence of Austria?—These are important credibilities; but they must wait for elucidation.

FRANCE now knows what an Emperor is. What follows in his train? Arrestations, conscriptions, stagnation of commerce, enmity with all the world, and mutual apprehension between man and man. France was a nation of citizens, before cards of citizenship were introduced: France had dealings with most parts of the world, before she incurred the hatred of all parts of the world, by her sanguinary edicts, and her affected greatness. The blood which she has shed, has been visited, and still is visiting upon her. She is the subject of her neighbours' pity,

abhorrence, and dread. She is the stranded vessel which all who discern her condition point at as to be avoided.—Her commander is executioner-general of the punishments of the Almighty; the *Satan* commissioned by wrath Divine, to avenge the iniquities of states and peoples: whatever veneration is due to *that* emperor and king, he may claim: whatever respect appertains to the character of hangman-extraordinary may be allowed, without reserve, to the head and chief of his profession;—a station attained by his personal talents and almost superhuman exertions.

If HOLLAND, the country of bogs and morasses, can derive consolation from the fable of the Frogs which desired a king from Jupiter, who first sent them a log, and afterwards a stork, she is happy in her stoicism and endurance. If she can see her youth torn from her, by conscription, to perish in the wilds of Germany, with patience—we often have admired her patience—she is the better fitted to sustain the yoke of Buonaparte. If she can bear the loss of her commerce, so far as it is hitherto lost,—e'en let her lose the whole, and defy further oppressions. Alas! the arrows of the sheaf, held by the Batavian lion, have long since lost their sharpness: and as to their union—yes, they are united—but under French fraternity, and the absolute sovereignty of a Buonaparte!

Time was when PRUSSIA could not possibly have been overlooked in a Political Periscope; when somewhat would have been due to Denmark, and more than mere mention to Sweden: these are now specks on the map of politics; we pass them; for what subjects do they afford for descent?

SPAIN is the object to which politicians of mortals would turn their anxious attention. How happens it, that, with a considerable portion of the country under his control, and with Spanish ministers in his council, we hear nothing of Spanish armies acting with the French on the behalf of King Joseph?—Partisans of some kind he must have; and in some places: does he not dare to entrust them with arms? Are all his efforts to rouse them to activity fruitless? Are they as sluggish, though goaded by French bayonets, as their compatriot mules? as when they loiter through the day to perform the journey of an hour? From whatever cause it arises, certain it is, that the loss of lives on the part of the Spaniards, in behalf of their most excellent, worthy, and honourable Don Joseph, will tend very little to depopulate the peninsula. Famous as the French have been for making the inhabitants of a country fight their battles, they have failed in animating the Spaniards, and in forcing them to seek, with emulation, as *they say* others have done, the embraces of death on the ensanguined plain.

The Spaniards who oppose the French have raised armies: the Junta have maintained their position, notwithstanding great losses: there must therefore be a preponderating principle in favour of the Junta; since this side of the question has had every possible adversity to struggle against. Buonaparte has removed some of the odious institutions of Spain; the Junta has abolished some of the still more odious taxes; between them both we hope that the general condition of the country will be really ameliorated; and that at length Spain will reap the benefit. The Junta have issued orders for assembling the *Cortes*,* or general representation of the provinces: they have also called the Marquis de la Romana to assist in their councils: these measures augur well; and, perhaps, they demonstrate that the Junta is convinced of the comparative weakness of the French, and means to take advantage of that circumstance. We have seen the French armies, lately, assemble in one body: to do what?—to separate again to different provinces. Why did they not, when assembled, *decour* the English and Spaniards?—They were unable. Why did they return to the provinces they had quitted?—They were wanted there. Either they were wrong to unite in one mass, or, being united, they were wrong to part. The fact is, they were not strong enough for both services, though wanted for both.

Then, appears GREAT BRITAIN, with its sister island, the "sacred isles of the west." That little kingdom is described by its adversary as corrupting all Europe with its gold;—yet it has no gold mines. It maintains a conflict, "*single-handed*," if need be, with the colossal power of France: that colossal power, so far as maritime affairs are concerned, has sunk under its efforts. It contributes to the injuries sustained by the French in Spain; and supports that spirit of freedom which would otherwise, from its novelty, have been destroyed at its birth. France curses the genius of Britain, and these curses are her greatest honours.

* In a following page the reader will see the reasonings of the Spaniards on the political wants of their nation, and the inferences they deduce. We suppose that these sentiments pervade, if not the whole nation, yet the enlightened and leading part of it. If they should prevail be called into exercise, and obtain *decided* popularity, they may contribute to turn the scale still more powerfully against the French and their partizans, and Spain may become a leading member of the European body politic. It is even possible, that she in her turn may contribute to organize resistance to the continental tyrant: and from having received favours, she may be in a state to confer them.

At this moment Britain is making great exertions to weary the power of France on the continent, and to prevent the chief of that nation from drawing his troops to the interior of Europe. On the advantages obtained by these measures there will be different opinions; and, certain it is, that a nation destined to be conquerors at sea is not to expect equal superiority on land. France, however, feels her military power, and finds British troops to be no despicable opponents.

At this moment, too, the British ministry are understood to be dissatisfied with each other as colleagues: half of them have given notice of resignation; what will become of the administration is not yet known; but a short time will determine.

The King of Great Britain is about to enter the fiftieth year of his reign: this is no ordinary occurrence. In the course of fifty years, how often has his majesty changed his servants, hoping for a better set? and how often has he and the nation been disappointed? Party—the interests of party, must be consulted; and the interests of party are not those of the commonwealth. These incidents will probably occupy the attention of the British nation at present; and when the new ministry have been settled for a while, the opinion of the public will be settled also.

It is the fate of that country to be ruled by Party; and the change is so total, when a ministry goes out, that foreigners complain, that by the time they have become intimate with British envoys they are withdrawn because their friends are no longer in power. For this reason, among others, that Court obtains but imperfect acquaintance with foreign politics.

It might be thought that the inconveniences of this method of transacting public business would long ago have induced some of their official characters to alter it;—but the notion of *confidence* is so strong in that country that the consideration "to whom confidence may be given" excludes the conviction of honour or talent in the *opposite* party.

A wide interval of ocean separates those islands from America, a continent formerly colonized from them, and still maintaining many relations with "the old country." France had effected a state of variance between them: France had thrown the apple of discord; but, at present, it is strongly hoped that peace will prevail, and that a harmony, not speedily to be interrupted, will be the result of that malignant interference which has produced animosity between states that have many interests, feelings, and convictions in common.

STATE OF PUBLIC SPIRIT IN SPAIN.

[From the *Seminario Patriótico*.]

"The first object of our attention must undoubtedly be to maintain our national existence against the assaults of the enemy who seeks to destroy it; for existence is the first good as well for nations as individuals; but as people, weakened by an extended series of calamities, cannot long maintain themselves against powerful rivals, unless they recover their lost strength, so our defence is so connected with our internal improvements, that in vain shall we form plans of campaigns, if we do not accompany them with reforms consecrated to the happiness of the people.*

"Our revolution has arisen from a most unjust attack, which rousing our dormant energy, shewed us the alternative either to correct our inveterate abuses, or cease to exist as Spaniards. Hatred of the French, serving as a bond of union which former disorders had almost broken, is that which has preserved us from rushing into that fatal anarchy which lately threatened us; but let us not rely on our present tranquillity.

"The germ of the revolution, which originated in the abdication of Charles the 4th, is still alive; and the spirit of misunderstood federalism, which arose from the mutual independence with which the provinces armed themselves, may probably hereafter be stirred up.

"And how can this desired union be accomplished? by giving to all a share in what belongs to all; that every one may contribute to the public welfare, as to his own concern; that those who, by the will of the whole, were appointed makers or reformers of the laws, may be looked upon as the interpreters of the will of each other; in short, so acting, that on seeing the revival of this expiring country, all might say with a pleasure unspeakable, *our blood has ransomed her from death; our cares have given her new life.* This would be the immediate effect of a legitimate representation.

"Thus would that primitive ardour, which was admired at the commencement of this memorable war, return to its former strength. It is true that it still exists in Spanish bosoms, but it exists without any other nurture than our constancy, and the ferocious conduct of the enemy: it exists, but it is now the slumbering fire which succeeds a great conflagration. If enthusiasm for the public good revive it, it will become a flame which shall purge our dross, and consume those robbers; but if it is abandoned to itself—if it is only fanned by the gentle breath of remote and indefinite hopes, soon will it be covered with ashes. Nothing is to be feared from the fire of patriotism, when directed by a national body such as we wish for; on the contrary, there is no other mode of healing us, without exposing us to violent convulsions.

* The government is at present engaged in preparing the assembly of the cortes, for the purpose of making improvements in the monarchy; we are very far from wishing to anticipate their determination. We lay down general principles which never can be repugnant to the modifications which circumstances may require.

If this great undertaking is to be accomplished, let the whole nation act in concert: then will every difficulty vanish; nobles, plebeians, ecclesiastics, husbandmen, merchants, mechanics, all unite, penetrated with the necessities of their respective classes; they will perceive how the welfare of each depends upon that of the nation they represent; they will recognize the benefits of the mutual sacrifices which one must make to the other: they will establish the permanent basis of a free constitution, in which the laws being perfected, the duties and rights of the throne will appear unclouded, and the duties and rights of the nation which supports it: from thence will proceed, gradually and beneficially, improvements in our legislation and internal administration; from thence, in fine, good faith and confidence, the only guarantees of the prosperity of states.

"Spaniards, perhaps we do not possess the talent of persuading you, but you cannot deny the practical persuasion of example. Turn your eyes towards England, to that nation, our ally, whose powers astonish Europe, and whose character is the only barrier which the tyranny of France has hitherto encountered; what is the source of that indefatigable strength which she displays? The public spirit which arises from a parliament equally respected by the people and the king; it is the fountain of the riches of the kingdom, defending liberty and industry, its inexhaustible treasures; it is the soul of that rigid character which renders the nation invulnerable to the internal attacks of despotism, and the external ones of foreign powers; it is that which, giving to every Englishman a well-founded pride of belonging to a nation, disposes him to sacrifice life rather than stain that most worthy name. Ask an Englishman why he glories in being such? The most obscure mechanic will reply without hesitating a moment, 'because I enjoy my property, and am free; I have a king whom I love with enthusiasm; and I venerate him the more, as I know he has not the power of doing us wrong; a body of citizens watches over our interests; these are not discussed in dark secrecy; I know when and in what manner they are debated; I speak also my opinion upon them, and although it is worth nothing, the liberty of expressing it gives to us all the dignity of men.' Spaniards; beloved countrymen; on asking us, what privileges this glorious name confers on us, will you tell me what to reply?"

* Let it not be supposed that the welfare of a nation consists in giving it codes, howsoever well framed they may appear at first sight, nor in forming a constitution digested in the private study of a Scavon. Nothing is more easy than to make constitutions most perfect in theory; the great difficulty consists in giving laws adapted to the character, manners, and opinions of a brave people; it not being in the power of man to ripen fruits, which time only can bring to perfection and maturity, they should content themselves with sowing the seeds which are to produce them; let there be in Spain a national body; let there be cortes which properly deserve that name, and they will form the constitution we want, better than if Locke himself should rise again to make it; it is not requisite to be a philosopher to take care of one's own interests; the condition is, *to be free.*

Panorama Office, Sept. 28.

"The council shall hear of it; it is a riot," says Justice Shallow: to which honest Parson Hugh Evans replies, "the council shall hear of nothing but the fear of Got: there is no fear of Got, in a riot."—Very true; but if the members of the council themselves will be guilty of acts of riot, what becomes of "the fear of Got," and the dignity of office? We conceive, that men of the utmost integrity, and of the very best intentions, may differ in their judgements: candour should induce them to give each other credit for honour and probity, when circumstances assume an ambiguous appearance; and at any rate, they should refrain from violating the laws of their country, and the dictates of *true* personal honour.

We regret to have to state, that a few days ago Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning were so ill-advised as to give each other a meeting for the purpose of—*honourable* murder!—They fired two pistols each; and Mr. Canning received a flesh wound in the thigh: it is not understood to be dangerous; but certainly it will be no advantage to his person, or *character*, for the rest of his life. What! had these ministers no greater command over their angry passions than this evinces? Where were their *cool* heads, as statesmen? Where their consideration for the feelings of their colleagues? Where their respect to the national decorum? Where their sense of the ridicule to which such folly subjects the nation in the eyes of foreigners, the Cabinet in the estimation of the British senate and magistrature, and those honoured with the confidence of the King, in the consideration of the nation and its dependencies?

That the *late* ministry, for such it may be called, is virtually dissolved, is known; but who will succeed to their stations, is not known. It is a matter of very serious meditation. The circumstances that now surround this country, are of no trivial description. We desire wise heads, vigilant minds, active hands, forecast and aftercast, extensive information, correct views of things, stout hearts, and strong spirits. As to party small talk—the *people* look to this man—the *people* expect this concession—the *people* demand—they will have—we say explicitly, that a ministry which pays any attention to such gibberish is not likely to serve the country effectually. To a British ministry we recommend British sentiments: the good of the commonwealth at large: the greater lines of national business and welfare: the honour which becomes a man; the integrity which becomes a statesman; the morals and the piety which becomes a Christian. Away with all sneaking submission to the shackles

of party politics!—stand forth, GREAT MIND and serve your country: your country will, in a short time, do you justice: and what is now "damu'd with faint praise," shall receive the unrestrained plaudits of the nation; when the nation has discovered your character and felt the benefits consequent on it. We want no ministry with an—*ite* annexed to it: we want honest and hearty souls, who, while Providence shall spare his Majesty's life, may relieve his declining days, and cheer his departing anxieties; and who, when a new sovereign shall be invested with the charge of government, may be continued in their stations, with every expectation of their conducting his reign to the very pinnacle of prosperity and honour.

As to the foreign affairs of this country, they stand at present in a very equivocal state. We wonder much that Germany preserves that profound silence, which for several weeks past has *distinguished* it. There is some check put to the projects of Napoleon; or he would long ago, have lodged at Paris, and been off for Spain. He has met with difficulties not easily to be surmounted, or his insane career of ambition would have been continued, either eastward, or westward, northward, or southward. We hardly dare flatter ourselves that the question of a *general peace* is involved in this silence: yet perceiving, as we think, that Europe stands in need of repose, and that it will not obtain that blessing till Britain also is at peace, our wishes lead (perhaps *mislead*) our hopes. Russia and Sweden, it is understood have made peace: this will not restore harmony between the two nations: we say, that *hard conditions and forced concessions will not restore harmony*: and if it be true, that British commerce is to be excluded from Swedish ports as one condition of pacification; then to employ the old pun on such subjects, this is a mere *patchification*, indeed. For, what can be more open to prevarication and impertinence than questions of commerce, the introduction of commodities by indirect means? The peace if not the honour and dignity of that nation which is at the mercy of a thousand Custom-house officers every day in the year, most assuredly hangs on a spider's web. It is not the interest of Sweden to force Britain to become independent on her commodities, as she is every day becoming more and more on Russia. If we might anticipate for a short time hence, we might almost venture to start the question whether a prohibition of the Russian trade would not be good policy in Britain? This we verily think, that were peace restored to-morrow, the trade with that country would be long ere it reached that extent which it lately enjoyed.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

FROM THE 20TH OF AUGUST, TO THE 20TH
OF SEPTEMBER, 1809.

BIRTHS.

Of Sons.—The lady of Sir John Wildbore Smith, Bart. at his seat, Sidling, Dorsetshire.—Mrs. Pickford, of Upper Gower-street.—At Allestree Hall, in the county of Derby, the lady of J. O. Girardot, Esq.—At Twickenham, the lady of Lieut. Colonel Head, of the 13th Light Dragoons.—At Woodford, Essex, the lady of Capt. Charles Pelly, R. M.

Of Daughters.—At Blythfield, in Staffordshire, the Right Hon. Lady Bagot.—At Dublin, Lady Clonbrock.—At Hertingfordbury, Herts. the Lady of the Rev. J. H. Batten.—The lady of Dr. Mar-
ratt, of Russel-square.

MARRIAGES.

By special licence, at Mrs. Talbot's, in Wimpole-street, Cavendish-square, by Rev. Dr. G. Andrews, the Right Hon. Lord Boringdon, to Miss Talbot, of Wymondham, in Norfolk.—At Bath, — Hartley, Esq. just come of age, and into possession of 6 or 8000*l.* per annum landed property, to Miss Watts, the daughter of the Parish Clerk of St. Michael's, whose celebrity as a cobbler stands unrivalled. The young man has settled 300*l.* per annum on his father-in-law, and 600*l.* per annum on his wife. The ceremony commenced at eight o'clock; the bridegroom had no sooner given his troth, than he was taken with fainting fits, and it was not till half past eleven that the service was renewed. Shortly after the uncle arrived to forbid the marriage.—J. Tuck, Esq. of Lingwood Lodge, Norfolk, to Miss J. Holmes, of Hemsby.—At Whitechapel Church, C. Greenwood, Esq. of Endfield Mills, to Miss E. George, of the same place.—At South Stoneham, Hampshire, Philip Cipriani, Esq. to Mrs. Waller, of Bevis Hill.—At Tring, Herts, S. Reynolds Solly, Esq. of Serge Hill, St. Albans, to Miss F. Hammond, of Queen-square, Bloomsbury.—At Chester, G. Stevens, Esq. of Queen Ann-street, West, to Miss S. Ford.—At St. George's, Bloomsbury, L. G. Hansard, Esq. Printer, to Miss E. Hobbs, of Samson's-gardens, Wapping.—At Portsmouth, Edward Carter, Esq. to Miss Carter.—At Edinburgh, A. Gairdner, Esq. to Mrs. L. Meredith.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, John Prince, Esq. of Southwark, to Miss Hall, of Halkin-street, Grosvenor-square.—T. O'Reilly, Esq. of Gloucester-place, to Miss O'Callaghan, of Cadogan-place.—At Thorp-Arch, Robert Hemington, Esq. of that place, to Miss Fisher, of Twickenham.—At Lady Surling's, in Queen-street, Edinburgh, Sir T. Livingstone, Bart. to Miss Surling.—At Carlisle, M. Rowand, Esq. of Glasgow, to Miss M. Wilson, of Carlisle.—At Foxley, Wilts, Rev. John Plumptre, to Miss Caroline Carter, of Foxley.—At Great Bealings, Augustus Simon Frazer, Esq. to Miss Lynn, of Woodbridge.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, Ensign Benj. Fox, 12th regiment of Foot, to Miss Guillianan, daughter of Mr. Guillianan, Merchant, of Oporto.—Rev. Henry Smith, to Miss F. Taunton, of

Grand Pont, near Oxford.—At St. Anne's, Soho, Edward Tandy, Esq. to Mrs. De Boffe.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, Mr. John Edmeads, of Loose, Kent, to Miss Grimaldi, of Albemarle-street.—At Lambeth, Rev. Jonathan Barrett, of Stockwell, to Miss Mary Slade, of Doctor's Commons.—At St. Bartholomew's Church, Smithfield, Mr. J. S. Alport, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Miss Beck, of Hackney.—On the 21st ult. Mr. George Aspin, to Mrs. Copley, both of Hunslet, each aged 75.—By the Rev. Charles Charleton, Vicar of Tynemouth, Thomas Hevens, Esq. of Thelton Hall, Norfolk, to Miss Dorothy Charleton, daughter of Foster Charleton, Esq. of Alyndyke, Northumberland.

DEATHS.

Aged 34, the Right Hon. Lord Henry Stuart, third son of Marquis of Bute.—At Lacock-Abbey, in the 86th year of her age, Right Hon. Eliz. Countess Dowager of Shrewsbury, relict of late George Earl of Shrewsbury, and daughter of the late John Lord Dormer, Baron of Wenge, who died in 1785, at the very advanced age of 95 years.—At Bisham, C. L. Parker, Esq. Surgeon to the Forces, and to the Royal Military College at Great Marlow.—At Itchenor, Sussex, within a few minutes of each other, Mrs. Stroud, wife of Capt. Stroud, aged 40, and Mrs. Beale, wife of Capt. Beale, aged 20; they were mother and daughter, and both their deaths were owing to a gradual decline.—On the 17th August, Matthew Bolton, Esq. of Soho, near Birmingham, the respectable head of the celebrated Soho Manufactory, famous for his skill in the mechanical arts. To say merely that Mr. Bolton was an ingenious man, would convey to the public mind but a very slight idea of his rare, and, we may say, unrivalled talents. The history of his life will be inserted in our Biographical Memoirs, at the end of this volume.—On 23d August, as Miss Emily Harriet Hodgeson was leaving the house of Mrs. Ham-mot, of Portland-street, where she had spent the evening with a party, she dropped suddenly, whilst stepping into a coach with her brother, and expired in a few minutes. Her death was occasioned by an apoplectic fit.—At Barns, in Surrey, after a long illness, borne with exemplary patience and resignation, Anne Fox, aged 39, surviving her father (the late Mr. Fox, of Pimlico, who died suddenly), only six weeks.—At Beckett-house, Berks, Rev. T. Clarett, Rector of Sutton, in Nottinghamshire, aged 73.—At Stoke Newington, H. Parker, Esq. aged 84.—At Maidstone, Major-Gen. Coote Manningham, of 95th regt.—Mr. W. Barclay Mountney, of the Melpomene frigate, nephew of Sir R. Barclay, Bart.—At her father's house, in Doctors' Commons, Miss M. Maynard, aged 20.—At Madeira, Lady Sophia Bligh, wife of Hon. W. Bligh.—At his house, in Piccadilly, Right Hon. George William, Earl of Coventry, aged 88. He is succeeded in his titles and estates by his eldest son, George, Viscount Deerhurst, now Earl of Coventry.—At Deal, of a wound which he received before Flushing, Lieut.-Colonel Peter Hayes Petit, of the 35th regiment, aged 37.—At Calcutta, Mr. F. W. Tackle, aged 19, Midshipman of his Majesty's ship Cornwallis.—At Toulstone Lodge, near Tadcaster, Perigrine Wentworth, Esq. aged 87, last of the male line of the great Earl of Stafford. Mr. Wentworth was high

ly esteemed by every gentleman of the turf, on which he commenced in 1754, though in 1752 he rode his hunter, a match, against Mr. Vernon's hunter, over York.—In Baker-street, Portman-square, Sir John Murray, Bart. of Black Barony, Scotland.—Robert Chrystie, Esq. of Leicester-place, Army Agent, aged 77.—At Earle's Court, near Reading, Lady of Right Hon. Sir W. Scott.—In Upper Mary-la-bonne street, Mrs. Henrietta A. Perreau.—At Broadwater, near Stevenage, Herts, Mrs. Earl, of Temple Dinsley.—A. Hampton Wick, Middlesex, Mrs. Lawes, wife of V. Lawes, Esq. Barrister at Law, of Red Lion-square.—At Blackheath, Mrs. Richardson, of Grenville-street, Brunswick-square, aged 72.—At Cow-bridge, Hon. Mrs. Nicholl.—At Stewart-hill, county of Tyrone, Ireland, Andrew Thomas, Earl of Castlewarr. His lordship is succeeded by his eldest son Robert, now Earl of Castlewarr.—At the Bull, Shooter's Hill, on the 30th ult. Lady Stuart, relict of the late Lord Henry Stuart, whose remains passed that place only on Saturday, August 26, on their way to Cardiff, for interment. Her ladyship had been for some time in a declining state.—At his seat at Combermere Abbey, in Cheshire, Sir Robert Salisbury Cotton, Bart. in his 71st year. He sat in four Parliaments for that county, with honour to himself and advantage to his constituents. He is succeeded in title and estate by his eldest son, now Sir Stapleton Cotton, Bart. a Major-General in the Army, at present in Spain.—At Edinburgh, aged 86, Gen. Robert Melville, the oldest general in the British army.—At Hawthornden, Scotland, Right Rev. Bishop Wm. Abernethy Drummond, aged 90.—Aged 39, William Barrett, of Siclesmere, Essex, whose death was occasioned by the poisonous effects of the *Cotula Fatida*, or *Mayweed*, which introduced itself into the system at a wound in his hand.—General McKenzie Frazer, one of the officers lately returned from the Scheldt. He was an excellent officer.—At the Cape of Good Hope, after a long and painful illness, which she bore with the most pious fortitude, Mrs. Wetherall, wife of Gen. Wetherall, Commandant of Cape Town.—The Hon. Henry Neville, second son to Lord Braybrooke, died in Spain, three days after the battle of Talavera.—At Belfast, Isaac Corry, Esq. of Newry, aged 86.—At his residence at Rostrevor, Colonel H. Wray, late of Hon. East-India Company's service.—At Dromore, Mr. David Speers, aged 74.—At Perth, Mr. Wm. Ross, Writer, Keeper of the Safines, and Procurator-fiscal of the county of Perth.—At Tannadice, North Britain, James Macdonald, Esq. aged 83.—At Badminton, the Rev. Dr. Penny, many years Chaplain to the late and present Duke of Beaufort, and late Fellow of Oriel College.

MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

STAFF, &c. IN 1809.

War-Office, August 26, 1809.

Brevet—Major-Gen. Lord Wm. Bentinck, to be lieutenant-general in the army serving under Sir Arthur Wellesley.

Staff—To be Assistant Commissaries of Stores, Provisions, and Forage to the Forces, Edw. Pine Coffin, Gent. H. McDonnell, Gent.

August 29.—2d Regt. of Life Guards—Lieut. Richard Earl Weiby to be capt. of a troop, by purchase, vice Duncombe, who retires.

10th Light Dragoons—Lieut. J. R. L. Lloyd, from 17th light dragoons, to be capt. of a troop, by purchase, vice Bowen, who retires.

8th Foot—Lieut. Henry Brewster, to be adjut. vice M'Carthy, appointed to 10th royal veteran battalion.

17th Ditto—Lieut. Benj. Halfhide, to be capt. of a company, vice Swyer, deceased.

81st Ditto—Lieut. Daniel Wright to be capt. of a company, vice Fordyce, deceased.

94th Ditto—Lieut. Charles Campbell to be capt. of a company, by purchase, vice Allen, promoted.

95th Ditto—Lieut. Robt. Johnson, from the 28th foot, to be capt. of a company, by purchase.

99th Ditto—Brevet Lieut.-Col. Geo. Jackson, from halfpay of the late Argyle fencibles, to be major, vice Grey, who exchanges.

Royal York Rangers—Lieut. Thomas Johnston, from 4th West India regt. to be capt. of a company, vice Marston, deceased.

King's German Legion.

1st Batt. of the Line—Lieut. Lewis de Borstell, to be capt. of a company, with temporary rank, vice Werlape, deceased.

3d Ditto—Capt. David de Bachele, from the 8th batt. to be major, with temporary rank, vice Goldacker, promoted in the 7th battalion of the line.

4th Ditto—Col. Siegmund Baron Low, from the 7th batt. of the line, to be col. commandant, vice Langwerth, deceased.

7th Ditto—Major Frederick Baron Goldacker, from the 3d batt. of the line, to be lieutenant-colonel, with temporary rank, vice Low, appointed to the 4th battalion.

8th Ditto—Lieut. Siegmund Brauns, to be capt. of a company, with temporary rank, vice Bachele, promoted in the 3d battalion.

UNIVERSITY PROCEEDINGS AND PROMOTIONS.

Oxford.

August 12—Rev. John Monkhouse, M. A. Fel. of Queen's college, is presented, by that society, to the rectory of Bramshot.

—19. Rev. William Beeby, M. A. Fel. of Queen's college, is appointed, by the Provost and Fellows of that society, Head master of the Grammar School of Northleach, in the county of Gloucester.

Cambridge.

The Right Rev. Dr. Dampier, Lord Bishop of Ely, held his primary visitation of the deaneries of Cambridge, Barton, and Shingay, on Monday last, at St. Michael's church in this town. The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Haggitt, Rector of Ditten; after which his lordship delivered a most excellent charge to the clergy. On the following day his lordship held his visitation of the deaneries of Chesterton and Bourn, at the same church, when the sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Clarkson, Vicar of Hinxton; his lordship afterwards delivered his excellent charge to the clergy of those deaneries.

Bankrupts and Certificates, between August 19 and September 19, 1809, with the Attornies, extracted correctly from the London Gazette.

BANKRUPTS.

AUGUST 19.—Cooper, R. Paradise Street, Mary-labonne, dealer. *Att.* Upstone, Charles Street, Cavendish Square.
 Coward, H. Leather Lane, warehouseman. *Att.* Price and Williams, Lincoln's Inn.
 Cozins, W. Buckingham, cabinet-maker. *Att.* Sandys and Horton, Crane Court.
 Dean, J. Langley, Chester, corn-dealer. *Att.* Windle, John Street, Bedford Row.
 Fisher, J. Bristfield, York, clothier. *Att.* Scott, Furnival's Inn.
 Hudson, W. Gloucester, malster. *Att.* James, Gray's Inn Square.
 Murray, T. Paternoster Row, Spitalfields, shoe-maker. *Att.* White, Lincoln's Inn.
 Norman, J. Stroul, Kent, ironmonger. *Att.* Aubrey, Took's Court, Canister Street.
 Pockington, R. Wintorpe, and Dickinson, W. Newark, bankers. *Att.* Pierce and Son, Swithin's Lane.
 22.—Benwell, J. Newman Street, coachmaker. *Att.* Smart and Thomas, Staples Inn.
 Jones, Owen, and Abbott, Bucklersbury, merchants. *Att.* Wilde, jun. Castle Street, Falcon Square.
 Trevor, J. Gainsborough, money-scrivener. *Att.* Leigh and Mason, New Bridge Street.
 26.—Coward, F. Fugglestone, Wilts, and Brewer, J. Harcombe, clothiers. *Att.* Blake and White, Essex Street.
 Curtis, R. Worcester, linen-draper. *Att.* James, Gray's Inn.
 Deacon, J. Baker Street, confectioner. *Att.* Shephard and Adlington, Bedford Row.
 Ellis, J. Rathbone Place, butcher. *Att.* Orchard, Hatton Garden.
 Harvey, C. Monmouth, ironmonger. *Att.* Mayo and Berkeley, Gray's Inn.
 Hodgson, J. sen. Coleman Street, merchant. *Att.* Collins and Waller, Spital Square.
 Johns, R. jun. Truro, victualler. *Att.* Sandys and Horton, Crane Court.
 Smuritt, J. Bell Wharf, Shadwell, merchant. *Att.* Settree, St. Mary Axe.
 Thorne, W. Leeds, cloth-merchant. *Att.* Robinson, Essex Street.
 Winter, J. and J. Acre Lane, Brixton Causeway, builders. *Att.* Saunders and Budin, Clifford's Inn.
 29.—Kelly, J. Shoreditch, dealer. *Att.* Wright, Dowgate Hill.
 Mark, J. jun. Thursley, Cumberland, merchant. *Att.* Birkett, Walbrook.
 Oliphant, J. Fleet Street, tailor. *Att.* Alliston, Freeman's Court.
 Rintey, W. Oxford Street, coachmaker. *Att.* A'Beckett, Broad Street.
 Weaver, T. Cheltenham, innkeeper. *Att.* Platt, Temple.
 SEPT. 1.—Henshaw, C. Tower Street, wine-merchant. *Att.* Berridge, Hatton Garden.
 McCloud, J. Woolwich, wheelwright. *Att.* Langham, Burlett's Buildings.
 Phillips, W. Wrangley, Lincoln, shopkeeper. *Att.* Amici, Lion College Gardens.
 Sault, W. South Molton Street, calenderer. *Att.* Rutherford, Bartholomew Close.
 Saxelby, T. Derby, merchant. *Att.* Edwards and Jessop, Derby.
 Swift, J. Liverpool, Stationer. *Att.* Shephard and Adlington, Bedford Row.
 Waylen, R. Devizes, victualler. *Att.* Salmon, Devizes.
 5.—Barber, R. Watling Street, merchant. *Att.* Baker, Temple.
 Brown, T. Russel Street, Bloomsbury, currier. *Att.* Mills, Vine Street, Piccadilly.
 Caley, T. Liverpool, merchant. *Att.* Cooper and Lowe, Southampton Buildings.
 Cowley, R. Falmouth, merchant. *Att.* Tippet and Son, Falmouth.
 Docker, J. Ludworth, Derby, thread-mannufacturer. *Att.* Cooper and Lowe, Southampton Buildings.
 Domville, T. C. Shefford, Bedford, draper. *Att.* Taylor, Southampton Buildings.
 Elliott, J. Queen Street, Cheapside, lead-merchant. *Att.* Humphreys, Token-House Yard.
 Pearson, S. New Mills, Derby, baker. *Att.* Cooper and Lowe, Southampton Buildings.

Prosser, J. Sloane Street, Chelsea, grocer. *Att.* Wingfield, Great Marlborough Street.
 Roughsedge, Wotton-under-edge, Gloucester, vintner. *Att.* James, Gray's Inn Square.
 Smith, T. N. Worcester, draper. *Att.* Parker, Worcester.
 9.—Carr, T. Oxford, grocer. *Att.* M'Michael, Finch Lane.
 Giddy, W. Truro, chemist. *Att.* Mitchell, Truro.
 Hunter, W. G. Islington, underwriter. *Att.* Courteen, Walbrook.
 King, J. King Street, Covent Garden, silk-mercier. *Att.* Webster and Son, Queen Street, Cheapside.
 Kinsay, W. Oxford Street, coachmaker. *Att.* Beckett, Broad Street, Golden Square.
 Marshall, J. Fleet Market, cloathsman. *Att.* Cook, Austin Friars.
 Pilkington, W. G. Bawtry, Yorkshire, innholder. *Att.* Wheatley, Rotherham.
 Robertson, D. Finsbury Square, wine-merchant. *Att.* Swain and Co. Old Jewry.
 Shorte, R. H. Exeter, cutler. *Att.* Spencer, Dartmouth.
 Smith and Holton, Charles Street and Suffolk Street, Middlesex Hospital, coachmakers. *Att.* Stevenson, Chequer Court, Charing Cross.
 Thorne, W. Leeds, cloth-merchant. *Att.* Sulton, Leeds.
 12.—Holloway, J. Frome Selwood, Somerset, dealer. *Att.* Ellis, Hatton Garden.
 Lee, J. Lewes, Sussex, linen-draper. *Att.* Bennet, Philpot Lane.
 16.—Bloxam, Wilkinson, and Bloxam, Gracechurch Street, bankers. *Att.* Ellison and Dawson, White Hart Court.
 Edwards, G. Louth, spirit-merchant. *Att.* Leigh and Mason, New Bridge Street.
 Gregor, J. Leeds, Manganese-dealer. *Att.* Foulkes and Longdill, Gray's Inn.
 Hilier, E. Mark Lane, pork-butcher. *Att.* Ney, Mincing Lane.
 Hind and Jones, Old Ford, dyers. *Att.* Jones, New Court, Crutched Friars.
 Simonds, G. Copple Row, baker. *Att.* Bennet, Philpot Lane.
 Smith, T. sen. and Smith, T. jun. Wakefield, linen-drapers. *Att.* Battye, Chancery Lane.
 South, J. Cardiff, ironmonger. *Att.* Sweet, King's-Bench Walk, Temple.
 Towae, J. Oxford Market, carcase-butcher. *Att.* Turner, Edward Street, Cavendish Square.
 Twycross, R. H. Brook Street, Holborn, jeweller. *Att.* Tucker, Bartlett's Buildings.
 Williams, W. Rathbone Place, carpenter. *Att.* Reilly, Stafford Row, Buckingham Gate.
 19.—Berry, T. Topley Street, tailor. *Att.* Millward, Size Lane.
 Calver, J. Brook Street, Ratcliffe, victualler. *Att.* Unwin, High Street, Shadwell.
 Cleasby, W. York, grocer. *Att.* Ellis, Chancery Lane.
 Dyson, J. Liverpool, druggist. *Att.* Shephard and Adlington, Bedford Row.
 Elton, P. Bolton-le-Moor, innkeeper. *Att.* Windle, John Street, Bedford Row.
 Hilier, J. Rathbone Place, picture-frame maker. *Att.* Mills, Vine street.
 Hoskyn, W. Cawsand, Cornwall, brewer. *Att.* Blakeclack and Makinson, Elm Court, Temple.
 Pearson, C. Friday Street, warehouseman. *Att.* Holmes and Lowden, Clement's Inn.
 Potter, T. Manchester, grocer. *Att.* Halstead and Ainsworth, Manchester.

CERTIFICATES.

Bamber, J. Ormakirk, wine-merchant.
 Bryan, M. George Street, Hanover Square, picture-dealer.
 Darnant, B. Whitechapel, brewer.
 Dods, J. Aldersgate Street, goldsmith.
 Elliot, H. Chippingham, grocer.
 Hankin, J. Holloway, builder.
 Horton, R. Newport, Salop, cabinet-maker.
 Matthews, D. Basingstoke, grocer.
 Milburn and Copeman, Bow-Church Yard, warehousemen.
 Morrice, J. Walstead, Northumberland, ship-owner.
 Munt, W. Portsea, plasterer.
 Owles, J. Bungay, Suffolk, shopkeeper.
 Pearson, J. Old Panshaw, grocer.
 Poore, J. Topley Street, lighterman.
 Rowntree, R. Holderness, miller.
 Sayer, R. P. Essex Street, money-scrivener.
 Stork, J. St. Saviour's Church Yard, hop-factor.
 Swaine, T. Birmingham, carrier.
 Taylor, Lathom, and Belcher, Liverpool, merchants.
 Thomas, G. Pembroke, shopkeeper.
 Thomson, W. Woodford, apothecary.
 Wilk, C. Birmingham, stationer.
 Winnall, E. C. Clames, Worcestershire, miller.

STATE OF TRADE.

Lloyd's Coffee-House, Sept. 20, 1809.

We have this month the pleasure to announce the arrival of a large fleet, on account of the United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies. viz. the Canton, Exeter, Alnwick Castle, Winchelsea, Elphinstone, Ocean, Royal George, David Scott, Ceres, and Dorsetshire, from China; the Essex, Thomas Grenville, and Walmer Castle, from China and St. Helena; and the Carmarthen, from Bombay. Their cargoes consist of the undermentioned commodities, viz: tea bohea, 2,275 chests, 1,300 half-chests, and 3,900 quarter-chests, 1,247,307lb. — Best do. 19,703 chests, 1,767,497lb. — Congou, 104,723 chests, 9,268,230lb. — Campoi, 18,707 chests, 1,529,585lb. — Souchong, 2,954 chests, 222,265lb. — Pekoe, 1,681 chests, 100,374lb. Singlo, 7,021 chests, 554,668lb. Twankay, 28,526 chests, 1,990,517lb. — Superior do. 4,751 chests, 324,330lb. — Hyson Skin, 4,720 chests, 308,256lb. — Hyson, 5,244 chests, 346,484lb. — Expected by the Warley: viz. 575 chests bohea, 97,567lb. 8,255 chests congou, 705,061lb. 2,006 chests campoi, 261,129lb. 2,676 chests singlo, 211,551lb. 905 chests twankay, 72,795lb. 500 chests superior do. 32,496lb. 249 chests hyson-skin, 16,356lb. 716 chests hyson, 47,722lb. Raw silk, 756 chests, 75,483lb. (Expected by the Warley, 70 chests, 6,984lb.) Nankeen cloth, 182,880 pieces; (expected by the Warley, 17,000 pieces.) 699 bags of saltpetre, 940 cwt. 1365 cups, and 126 bags of alkali, 4,731 cwt. 689 bales of hemp, 2,350 cwt. 40 boxes of kelp, 7 boxes of lichen, 3 boxes of sundry articles. Privilege goods, 759 bales and 20 half-bales of cotton; 9 casks of aloes; 45 boxes of nutmegs and cloves; 1 chest of musk; 94 bags of pepper; 25 chests of camphor; 3 bales of piece goods; 40 chests of arrow-root; 6 bales of cassia, &c.

The East India Company have declared that they will put up to sale on Tuesday, 24th of October next, prompt the 2d of February, 1810. 500 bales of China raw silk; of Bengal, 309 bales; and of organzine 50 bales; they also declare, a sale of Bengal raw silk, in the month of January next; but no more China silk will be sold earlier than the month April following. Also, at their September sale, 3,000 bags of Company's black pepper.

We understand that there will be speedily laid before the public, an inquiry into the most eligible means of bringing the affairs of India under the immediate control of government, on the expiration of the East-India Company's present charter. It will be attempted to be demonstrated in this inquiry, that the division of the present establishment

into six different companies will most effectually accomplish that desirable object; that is, two companies for Bengal and the interior, one company for Bombay, one company for Madras and China, and two for the Eastern Archipelago; leaving the remaining trade now the exclusive monopoly of the East India Company, from the Straits of Magellan to the Cape of Good Hope, open to all natives of the United Kingdom. On the propriety or effect of this, we give no opinion.

A threat of an immediate renewal of the American Non-Intercourse Act has been held out within the last few days; in consequence of which the prices of all sorts of North American produce have experienced a rise. We trust so impolitic a measure will not be hastily adopted by our transatlantic brethren. Liverpool has been as prompt as ever in profiting by the favourable moment. The greater part of the American vessels, which were last month lying in that port, are fully freighted; a circumstance not unfelt by nor unpleasant to the manufacturers of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, &c. The following is the amount of American produce imported into Liverpool, between 1st of January, and 5th of August 1809. Cotton, 90,292 bags; wheat, 172,968 bushels; flour 115,412 barrels, and 4,954 half-barrels; tobacco, 1,980 hogsheads; rice, 16,176 tierces, 1,900 barrels; turpentine, 28,885 barrels; tar, 19,690 barrels; pitch, 310 barrels; rosin, 571 barrels; ashes, 13,055 barrels, &c.

A notice has been issued by Don Josef Alouzo Patiz, residing at No. 7, Salisbury Street, inviting the body of English merchants, to supply Spain with grain, pulse, and seed, which commodities, he in his diplomatic character, (Consul General of Spain) declares to be admissible into every port of Spain, free from all duty, &c. We doubt whether this notice will, so far as grain is concerned, produce the desired effect.

We have been informed, that vessels sail from France with English licences under any colours, except French or Dutch. These licences are easily forged; but we think the abuse might in some degree be counteracted if our men of war were furnished with a list of the licences granted by the British government. The Havannah is glutted with every species of goods; so is Buenos Ayres, &c. British ships only are permitted to convey goods to Walcheren, where they may obtain licences to trade with the continent.

Within the last month, 300 sail of merchantmen are arrived from the Baltic, laden with timber, deals, and naval stores. It is confidently reported, that the ports of Denmark and Sweden are now open to all neutral vessels. Holland has relaxed its embargo in some degree, and in some of its ports.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Amsterdam, 2 us. 31-4—Ditto at sight, 30-9—Rotterdam, 9-15—Hamburgh, 29—Altona, 29-1—Paris, 1 day's date 20-1—Ditto, 2 us. 20-5—Madrid, in paper—Ditto, eff. 44—Cadiz, in paper—Cadiz, eff. 39½—Bilboa, —Palermo, per oz.—Leghorn, —Genoa, —Venice, eff.—Naples, —Lisbon, 65—Oporto, 68—Dublin, per cent. 10—Cork, do. 10½—Agio B. of Holland, 5½ per cent.

Daily Prices of STOCKS, from 20th August, to 20th SEPTEMBER, 1809.
N.B. In the 3 per cent. consols the highest and lowest price of each day is given; in the other stocks the highest only. 36, Clements Lane.

1809.	Bank stock.	3 p. Cent. reduced.	3 p. Cent. consols.	4 p. Cent. consols. 1790.	Navy 5 p. Cent.	Long Annuities	Quintum.	Imperial 3 p. Cent.	Ditto Annuities.	India stock.	India Bonds.	South Sea Stock.	Old Annuities.	New Ditto.	Exchng. B.	Lottery Tickets.	d.	Consols for Acct.	Irish Annuity.	Irish 5 p. Cent.
Aug. 21	—	69	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	7½	—	22p	—	—	—	7 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
22	262½	69	68½	84½	90	18½	—	—	—	—	21 22p	—	—	—	7 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
23	261½	69	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	187	22 23p	—	—	—	8 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
24	—	68½	68	84½	90	18½	1p	67	—	—	21 23p	—	—	—	7 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
25	—	68½	68	84½	90	18½	1p	67	—	—	21 23p	—	—	—	7 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
26	—	68½	68	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	187	24 50p	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
28	—	68½	68	84½	90	18½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
29	263	68	68½	84½	90	18½	—	—	7½	—	23 24p	—	—	—	9 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
30	264	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	187	23 24p	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
31	267	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	7½	—	23 24p	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
Sept. 1	1268	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	67½	—	—	23 24p	—	—	—	9 16	21 17	0	68½	—	98½
4	—	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	—	23p	—	—	—	9 16	21 17	0	68½	—	—
5	—	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	—	22 23p	—	—	—	9 17	21 17	0	68½	—	—
6	—	68½	68½	84½	90	18½	1p	—	—	—	22p	—	—	—	9 16	21 17	0	68½	—	—
7	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	22p	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
8	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	—	—	—	—	22p	—	—	—	8 15	21 17	0	68½	—	—
11	279	68½	68½	84½	90	188	—	—	—	—	22 23p	—	—	—	7 16	21 17	0	68½	—	—
12	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	—	—	—	—	21 23p	—	—	—	8 13	21 17	0	68½	—	—
13	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	21 23p	—	—	—	7 14	21 17	0	68½	—	—
14	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	188	21p	—	—	—	6 11	21 17	0	68½	—	—
15	278	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	20 21p	—	—	—	6 10	21 17	0	68½	—	—
16	278	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	19 20p	—	—	—	6 10	21 17	0	68½	—	—
18	278	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 13	21 17	0	68½	—	—
19	—	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 12	21 17	0	68½	—	—
20	279	68½	68½	84½	90	188	1p	—	—	188	21p	73½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

London Premiums of Insurance, September 20th, 1809.
(Brit. ships), return £5.—Jamaica to U. S. America.
 At 12 gs. To Musquito shore, Honduras, &c. return £6.—To East Indies, out and home.—East Indies to London.—Windward and Leeward Islands to U. S. of America, Quebec, Montreal, &c.
 At 25 gs. Southern Whale fishery.
 At 25 gs. Newfoundland, Jamaica, and Leeward Islands.

London Premiums of Insurance, September 20th, 1809.
(Brit. ships), return £2.—From Poole, &c. to Newfoundland, to U. S. of America, American ships.
 At 5 gs. To Madeira to U. S. of America.
 At 6 gs. Gibraltar, Madeira, return £3.
 At 8 gs. Newfoundland, Labrador, &c.—Jamaica, or Leeward Islands—Brazil, So. America, return £4.
 At 10 gs. Senegambia—U. S. of America, Liverpool, Chester, &c.
 At 11 gs. Ports of Scotland, Weymouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth.
 At 21 gs. Dublin, Cork, Derry, Limerick, Bristol, Chester, &c.—From Liverpool, Bristol, &c. to Dublin, Cork, or Waterford.—Bengal, Madras, or China.
 At 4 gs. St. Helena, or Cape of Good Hope, Dublin, Cork, &c. to London, (Comp.

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, &c. in September, 1809, at the Office of Mr. Scott, 28, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London.
 Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, £710, dividing £40 per share clear—Monmouth, £116, dividing £6 clear.—Grand Junction, £200.—Kennet and Avon, £42 to 47.—New, £44 to 49.—Wilts and Berks, £33 to 37.—Huddersfield, £31. 10s. to 35.—Worcester and Birmingham, new shares, £3. 10s. premium.—West India Dock, £182 per cent.—London Dock, £121½ to 125.—Commercial Dock, £75 premium.—Globe Assurance, £120½.—County Fire Office, £10 premium.—East London Water Works, £100 premium.—Kent ditto, £30 premium.—Rock Assurance, 4s. premium.